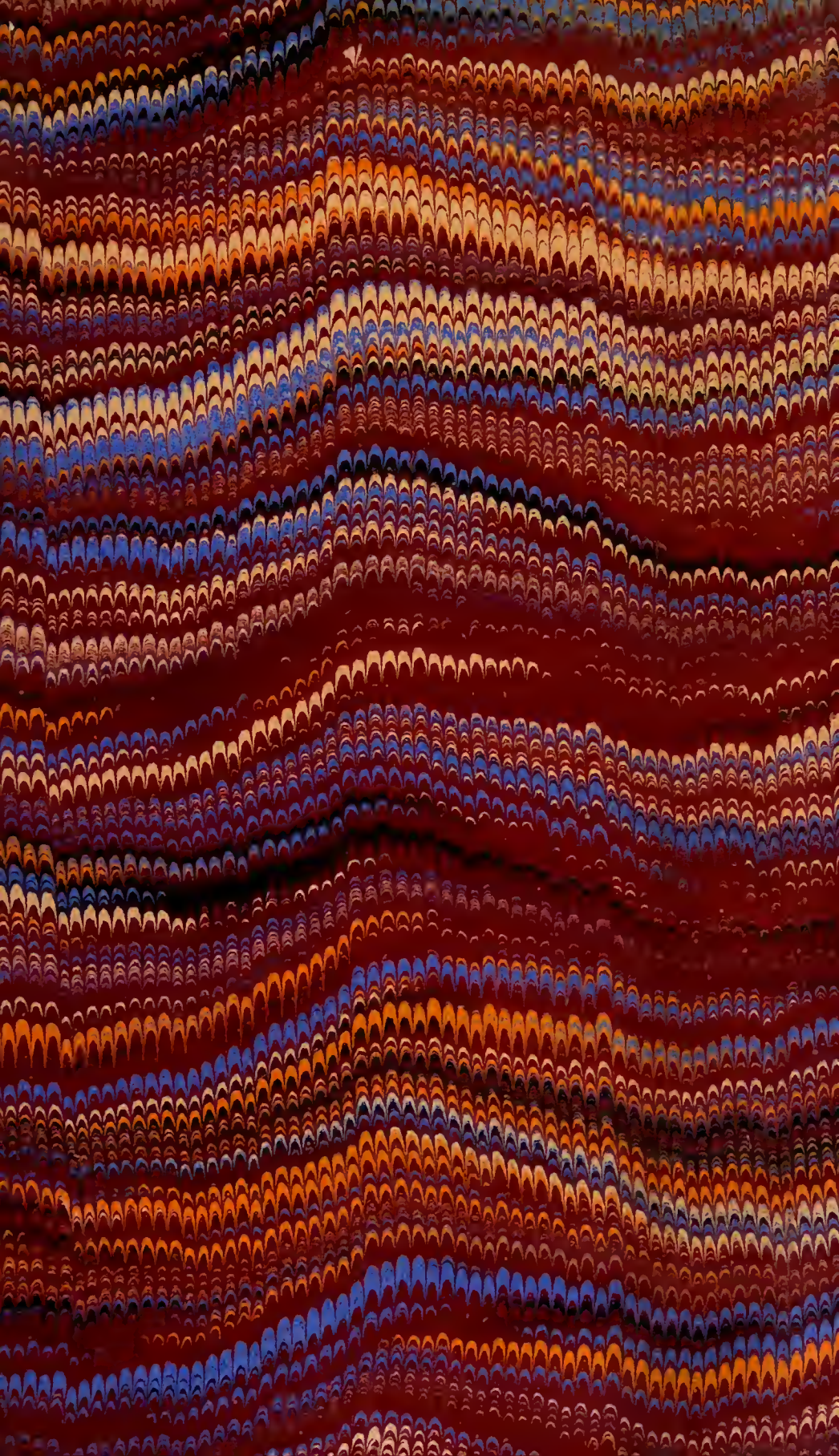


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THE THIRD ANNUAL

Quekett Dinner,

WITH AN ACCOUNT OF THE ORIGIN AND PROGRESS

OF

THE QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB.



NOVEMBER, 1878.



THE THIRD ANNUAL

Quekett Dinner,

On Saturday, the 23rd November, 1878,

(WITH AN ACCOUNT OF THE ORIGIN AND PROGRESS
OF THE

QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB.)

FRANK CRISP, Esq., LL.B., B.A., F.L.S., Sec. R.M.S.
in the Chair.

Dinner Committee:

T. CURTIES, Esq., F.R.M.S.

J. W. GOODINGE, Esq., F.R.G.S., F.R.M.S.

T. CHARTERS WHITE, Esq., M.R.C.S., L.D.S., F.R.M.S.

Secretary.

LONDON:

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8, OLD JEWRY, E.C.

1878.

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N.B.—It should be understood that this pamphlet is not issued officially by the Club, but by the Dinner Committee, with the object of putting in the hands of the Members some records of the origin of the Club, not hitherto printed, and as the best means of answering the oft-repeated question, "What are the Dinners like?"

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CALENDAR FOR 1879.

January.			February.			March.		
Full Moon 8th New Moon 22nd Last Quar. 15th First Quar. 30th			Full Moon 7th New Moon 21st Last Quar. 13th			First Quar. 1st Last Quar. 16th Full Moon 8th New Moon 22nd First Quar., 31st		
1	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.	1	S		1	S	
2	T ^h		2	S		2	S	
3	F		3	M		3	M	
4	S		4	T		4	T	
5	S		5	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.	5	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.
6	M		6	T ^h		6	T ^h	
7	T		7	F		7	F	
8	W	ORDINARY MEET- ING, R.M.S.	8	S		8	S	
9	T ^h	[Nominations for the Council]	9	S		9	S	
10	F	"Gossip Night," Q.M.C.	10	M		10	M	
11	S		11	T		11	T	
12	S		12	W	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, R.M.S. [Election of Council.]	12	W	ORDINARY MEET- ING, R.M.S.
13	M		13	T ^h		13	T ^h	
14	T		14	F	"Gossip Night," Q.M.C.	14	F	"Gossip Night," Q.M.C.
15	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.	15	S		15	S	
16	T ^h		16	S		16	S	
17	F		17	M		17	M	
18	S		18	T	ORDINARY MEET- ING, S.L.M.C.	18	T	ORDINARY MEET- ING, S.L.M.C.
19	S		19	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.	19	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.
20	M		20	T ^h		20	T ^h	
21	T	ORDINARY MEET- ING, S.L.M.C.	21	F		21	F	
22	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.	22	S		22	S	First Excursion, Q.M.C.
23	T ^h		23	S		23	S	
24	F	ORDINARY MEET- ING, Q.M.C.	24	M		24	M	
25	S		25	T		25	T	
26	S		26	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.	26	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.
27	M		27	T ^h		27	T ^h	
28	T		28	F	ORDINARY MEET- ING, Q.M.C.	28	F	ORDINARY MEET- ING, Q.M.C.
29	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.				29	S	
30	T ^h					30	S	
31	F					31	M	

April.			May.			June.		
Full Moon Last Quar.	6th 13th	New Moon 21st First Quar. 29th	Full Moon Last Quar.	6th 18th	New Moon 21st First Quar. 28th	Full Moon Last Quar.	4th 11th	New Moon 19th First Quar. 27th
1	T		1	T ^h		1	S	
2	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.	2	F		2	M	
3	T ^h		3	S	Excursion, Q.M.C.	3	T	
4	F		4	S		4	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.
5	S	Excursion, Q.M.C.	5	M		5	T ^h	
6	S		6	T		6	F	
7	M		7	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.	7	S	
8	T		8	T ^h		8	S	
9	W	ORDINARY MEET- ING, R.M.S.	9	F	"Gossip Night," Q.M.C.	9	M	
10	T ^h		10	S		10	T	
11	F	[Good Friday]	11	S		11	W	ORDINARY MEET- ING, R.M.S.
12	S		12	M		12	T ^h	
13	S		13	T		13	F	"Gossip Night," Q.M.C.
14	M		14	W	ORDINARY MEET- ING, R.M.S.	14	S	Excursion, Q.M.C.
15	T	ORDINARY MEET- ING, S.L.M.C.	15	T ^h		15	S	
16	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.]	16	F		16	M	
17	T ^h		17	S	Excursion, Q.M.C.	17	T	ORDINARY MEET- ING, S.L.M.C.
18	F		18	S		18	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.
19	S	Excursion, Q.M.C.	19	M		19	T ^h	
20	S		20	T	ORDINARY MEET- ING, S.L.M.C.	20	F	
21	M		21	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.	21	S	
22	T		22	T ^h		22	S	
23	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.	23	F	ORDINARY MEET- ING, Q.M.C.	23	M	
24	T ^h		24	S		24	T	
25	F	ORDINARY MEET- ING, Q.M.C.	25	S		25	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.
26	S		26	M		26	T ^h	[Nominations for the Committee.
27	S		27	T		27	F	ORDINARY MEET- ING, Q.M.C.
28	M		28	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.	28	S	Excursion, Q.M.C.
29	T		29	T ^h		29	S	
30	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.	30	F		30	M	
			31	S	Excursion, Q.M.C.			

July.			August.			September.		
Full Moon Last Quar.	3rd 11th	New Moon 19th First Quar. 26th	Full Moon Last Quar.	2nd 10th	New Moon 17th First Quar. 24st Full Moon, 31st	Last Quar. New Moon 16th	8th	First Quar. 22nd Full Moon 30th
1	T	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.	1	F	Library, R.M.S., closed.	1	M	Library, R.M.S., re- opens.
2	W		2	S		2	T	
3	T ^h		3	S		3	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.
4	F	QUEKETT MICRO- SCOPICAL CLUB, established 1865.	4	M		4	T ^h	
5	S		5	T		5	F	
6	S		6	W		6	S	Excursion, Q.M.C.
7	M	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.	7	T ^h		7	S	
8	T		8	F	"Gossip Night," Q.M.C.	8	M	
9	W		9	S		9	T	
10	T ^h	"Gossip Night," Q.M.C. [Last night for books or slides till 8th August.]	10	S		10	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.
11	F		11	M	Professor Quekett, born, 1815.	11	T ^h	
12	S		12	T		12	F	"Gossip Night," Q.M.C.
13	S	Excursion, Q.M.C.	13	W		13	S	
14	M		14	T ^h		14	S	
15	T		15	F		15	M	
16	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.	16	S		16	T	
17	T ^h		17	S		17	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.
18	F		18	M		18	T ^h	
19	S	Prof. Quekett died, 1861.	19	T		19	F	
20	S		20	W		20	S	Excursion, Q.M.C.
21	M		21	T ^h		21	S	
22	T	ORDINARY MEET- ING, Q.M.C.	22	F		22	M	
23	W		23	S		23	T	
24	T ^h		24	S		24	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.
25	F	ORDINARY AND ANNUAL MEET- ING, Q.M.C. [Elec- tion of Committee. No books or slides	25	M		25	T ^h	
26	S		26	T		26	F	ORDINARY MEET- ING Q.M.C.
27	S		27	W		27	S	
28	M	Excursion, Q.M.C.	28	T ^h		28	S	
29	T		29	F		29	M	
30	W		30	S		30	T	
31	T ^h	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.	31	S				

October.			November.			December.		
Last Quar. 8th New Moon 15th		First Quar. 22nd Full Moon 30th	Last Quar. 7th New Moon 14th		First Quar. 20th Full Moon 28th	Last Quar. 6th New Moon 13th		First Quar. 20th Full Moon 28th
1	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.	1	S		1	M	
2	T ^h		2	S		2	T	
3	F		3	M		3	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.
4	S	Excursion, Q.M.C.	4	T		4	T ^h	
5	S		5	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.	5	F	
6	M		6	T ^h		6	S	
7	T		7	F		7	S	
8	W	ORDINARY MEET- ING, R.M.S.	8	S		8	M	
9	T ^h		9	S		9	T	
10	F	"Gossip Night," Q.M.C.	10	M		10	W	ORDINARY MEET- ING, R.M.S.
11	S		11	T		11	T ^h	
12	S		12	W	ORDINARY MEET- ING, R.M.S.	12	F	"Gossip Night," Q.M.C.
13	M		13	T ^h		13	S	
14	T		14	F	"Gossip Night," Q.M.C.	14	S	
15	W	Library, R.M.S. open 7 to 10 p.m.	15	S		15	M	
16	T ^h		16	S		16	T	ORDINARY MEET- ING, S.L.M.C.
17	F		17	M		17	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.
18	S	Last Excursion, Q.M.C.	18	T	ORDINARY MEET- ING, S.L.M.C.	18	T ^h	
19	S		19	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.	19	F	
20	M		20	T ^h		20	S	ROYAL MICROSCO- PICAL SOCIETY, established 1839
21	T	ORDINARY MEET- ING, S.L.M.C.	21	F		21	S	
22	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.	22	S		22	M	
23	T ^h		23	S		23	T	
24	F	ORDINARY MEET- ING, Q.M.C.	24	M		24	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.
25	S		25	T		25	T ^h	
26	S		26	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.	26	F	ORDINARY MEET- ING, Q.M.C.
27	M		27	T ^h		27	S	
28	T		28	F	ORDINARY MEET- ING, Q.M.C.	28	S	
29	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.	29	S		29	M	
30	T ^h		30	S		30	T	
31	F					31	W	Library, R.M.S., open 7 to 10 p.m.

AN ACCOUNT OF
THE ORIGIN AND PROGRESS OF
The Quekett Microscopical Club.

Summary of the Constitution and Objects of the Club.

The Club was founded in July, 1865, for the objects mentioned in the Original Prospectus. (Sec p. 24)

The Business of the Club is by the Rules to be conducted by
A Committee (elected by ballot)
consisting of

The President,
Four Vice-Presidents,
The Treasurer,
The Honorary Secretary,
The Honorary Secretary for Foreign Correspondence, and
Twelve other Members.

The President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Secretaries, and four Senior Members (by date of election) of the Committee, retire annually, but are eligible for re-election.

No. of Members.—Ordinary 562,* Honorary 8.

The Election of Members is by ballot—in the case of Ordinary Members, on a certificate of recommendation of two or more Members (one on personal knowledge)—in the case of Honorary Members, on the recommendation of the Committee.

Annual Subscription.—Ten shillings, payable in advance on 1st July, or a Composition of £10. (No Entrance Fee.)

Meetings.—*Ordinary.*—For reading Papers, and Discussions thereon; electing new Members; the Exhibition of Objects, &c. On the fourth Friday in each month, at 8 p.m., in the Library (by permission) of University College, Gower Street, W.C.

Annual General.—For receiving the Report of the Committee on the affairs of the Club and the Balance Sheet; and for electing the President, Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Secretaries, and four other Members of the Committee. On the fourth Friday in July, before or after the Ordinary Meeting.

* 109 are Fellows of the Royal Microscopical Society.
Average number of Members elected:—1872, 62—1873, 53—1874, 64—1875, 44
—1876 53—1877, 66.

Conversational.—For Conversation and the Exhibition of Objects. ("Gossip Nights.") On the second Friday in each month, from 7 to 9.30 p.m.*

Any Member may introduce a visitor at any Meeting.

A *Soirée* for the exhibition of Objects, Apparatus, &c., is held biennially (by permission) in the Libraries and Museum of University College.

The Library consists of upwards of 400 Volumes—each Member may borrow one at any of the Meetings (except July), and retain it for a month.

The Cabinet of Objects contains upwards of 2,000 catalogued slides (in addition to a considerable number not catalogued), six of which can be borrowed at any of the Meetings (except July), and retained for a month.

The Journal is issued periodically, and contains the Papers read, and a Record of the Proceedings at the Meetings.

Excursions fortnightly, on Saturday afternoons (in union with the South London, Croydon, and Watford Societies), from the middle of March to the middle of October (August excepted), and in addition two Day-Excursions.

The following are among the places visited :—*North of the Thames*, Elstree, Finchley Common, Grays, Hackney Marshes, Rickmansworth, Snarebrook, Totteridge and Mill Hill, Victoria Docks, and Walthamstow.

South of the Thames, Barnes, Caterham, Chislehurst, Esher, Hampton Court, Keston Common, Swanscombe, Thames Ditton, Wandsworth Common, and Weybridge.

Day Excursions to Southend, and to Leatherhead on the day of the *Excursionists' Annual Dinner* in June.

* Average attendance at the Meetings :—

<i>Conversational</i> —Members.				Exhibitors.	<i>Ordinary</i> —Members.				Exhibitors.
1872	...	...	48	11	70	9			
1873	...	...	55	9	72	8			
1874	...	...	52	11	79	8			
1875	...	...	56	10	71	8			
1876	...	...	57	11	76	11			
1877	...	...	58	13	74	13			

Professor Quekett.

*(From the Address of the President of the
ROYAL MICROSCOPICAL SOCIETY for 1862.)**

The late John Quekett was one of the Founders of this Society. In 1842 he became Honorary Secretary, and in that office he laboured for 19 years to promote its success. In 1860 he was elected President—an office which, from the state of his health at that time, he would rather have declined; and in his Address read from the chair last year, he expresses his regret that he had been prevented by illness from ever occupying the chair at any of the Ordinary Meetings. It was in compliance with his special request that he was not re-elected, or in the ordinary course he would have been President of the Society at the time of his decease.

He was the “fourth son of the late Mr. Quekett, head-master of Langport Grammar School, at which institution he received his elementary education.” His predilection for microscopical pursuits was manifested at a very early age; for, (as stated in a brief memoir in the ‘Times’ of the 22nd August, 1861,) when only ‘sixteen he gave a course of lectures on microscopical science, illustrated by diagrams and a Microscope of his own making, . . . made up of materials furnished by a common roasting-jack, a ladies’ old-fashioned parasol, and pieces of brass purchased at a neighbouring marine-store dealer’s, and hammered out by himself.” Having selected the medical profession, he in due course became a Licentiate of the Society of Apothecaries, and a Member of the Royal College of Surgeons of London. In the latter Institution he obtained, by competition, the appointment of “Student of Human and Comparative Anatomy.” While holding this appointment he gave a large share of his attention to microscopical pursuits, and prepared an extensive series of specimens of the elementary tissues of plants and animals. This collection, numbering 2500 preparations, was purchased by the College of Surgeons in 1846, and forms a part of the histological department of their Museum. It contains a large number of specimens of minute injections of the capillaries, in preparing which he

*Trans. Mic. Soc. N. S., vol. x., p. 61.

was remarkably skilful and successful. At the expiration of the term for which the Studentship was tenable, he became "Assistant Conservator of the Hunterian Museum," and in the year 1844 was appointed by the Council of the College "to deliver annually a course of demonstrations, with a view to the exhibition and connected description of the Collection, and to the explanation of the method and resources of microscopical study." On the retirement of Professor Owen, "Mr Quekett was elected his successor, and also Professor of Histology, an appointment which he held at the time of his decease."

In 1848 he published 'A Practical Treatise on the Use of the Microscope,' a second edition of which was soon required and published.

In 1850 appeared the first volume of the 'Descriptive and Illustrated Catalogue of the Histological Series contained in the Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons of England'—Elementary Tissues of Vegetables and Animals.

In 1852 was published a volume of 'Lectures on Histology, delivered at the Royal College of Surgeons of England, in the Session 1850-51'—Elementary Tissues of Plants and Animals.

In 1854 was published a second volume of 'Lectures on Histology, delivered at the Royal College of Surgeons in the Sessions 1851-52'—Structure of the Skeleton of Plants and Invertebrate Animals.

In 1855 appeared a second volume of a 'Descriptive and Illustrated Catalogue of the Histological Series contained in the Museum of the Royal College of Surgeons of England'—Structure of the Skeleton of Vertebrate Animals.

In addition to these published works, he contributed numerous papers to this Society, which are printed in the 'Transactions of the Microscopical Society of London,' from 1841 to 1857.

The high position he attained, and the honourable estimation in which he was held by all cultivators of science, were the justly merited reward of his untiring industry and steady perseverance, to which alone he owed his success. His loss will be severely felt by all interested in microscopical pursuits, but it will be especially felt by the members of his own profession, who were continually applying to him for his opinions on doubtful questions of physiology and pathology, and the various matters in which the Microscope is applied to practical medicine, and to whom he was at all times ready and willing to afford advice and assistance. His lectures, addressed to a class,

principally composed of students and practitioners in medicine, were especially interesting for the practical bearing of his remarks and illustrations as applied to medicine. His knowledge on all subjects in the investigation of which the Microscope is used was extensive, varied, and accurate, and what is of hardly less importance, it was ever at command ; he was never at a loss ; and though cautious and sometimes slow in giving an opinion, his apparent hesitation was occasioned rather by the abundance than deficiency of information. He was endowed with a rare combination of qualities, the exercise of which made him the accomplished microscopist he confessedly was. He was thoroughly familiar with the practical use of the instrument, dexterous and delicate in manipulation, singularly skilful in preparing objects for examination, diligent and patient in research, sagacious and courteous in interpreting the phenomena the Microscope revealed—above all, he was honest and candid in recording his observations. Not given to speculation, he was unbiassed by, though not unacquainted with, the views of others. His simple aim was truth ; his labours were mainly directed to determining facts, leaving to others to draw the inferences they might justly warrant. Hence the special character of his works ; abounding as they do in original observations, they are a rich treasury of well ascertained facts, duly authenticated by a competent observer, and faithfully recorded by a trustworthy witness.

He died at Pangbourne, Berkshire, on the 20th August, 1861, at the early age of 46, leaving a widow (Ella, second daughter of the late David Scott, Esq.), and four children to deplore the loss of an amiable husband and indulgent parent.

(From the 'Daily Telegraph,' 5th September, 1865.)

What does great London know of her real working men ? The tides of restless life ebb and flow along her crowded streets, setting with a steady stream eastward in the morning, and westward in the afternoon. Her offices and counting-houses, banks and manufactories, workshops and warehouses, are thronged with busy hands, all, in some sense or other, sharing for good or bad in the general task of life. But the real workers are still the men of science. From them the German sugar-bakers of Whitechapel learn their trade ; the ships, the trains, the telegraphs, the wonders of the

daily paper, the articles in the shop-windows, the commonest commodities of ordinary life, made and sold to supply millions, and earn bread for thousands—all can be traced back to the closet of the thinking man who gave the world the hint, the combination, the discovery, the machine, the chemical agent. They are the brain, and the mass of industrial and commercial existence supplies but the hands and limbs of the body social. We cannot estimate the relative energies of men except in retrospect. Yet compare Arkwright thinking out his loom, or Stephenson his locomotive, or Wheatstone his telegraph, or Daguerre his sun pictures, with the average workers of the day in each of these arts. There is no comparison. Whole provinces of labour, whole kingdoms of invention, mines of industrial wealth, and legions of human improvement and advance, depend upon the activity of the little single head-piece. When Syraeuse fell, search was made for Archimedes; but a soldier had killed him—at his diagrams and compasses, too busy to escape—and the conqueror said, “We have gained a city for the Senate, and lost a man worth all Sicillia for the world.” Thus it is not in the noisiest haunts that the work of humanity advances most: the little quiet chamber where sits the writer whose thoughts stir the age—the chemist’s laboratory, where nature is patiently importuned with experiment and theory for her rich secrets—the engineer’s workshop, in which great plans to facilitate intercourse and trade are cogitated—and the inventor’s study, in which are shaped those machines whose help and strength will reach far and wide to befriend labor—that is the centre at which the wheels of the world are really turning fastest. There was such a worker for many years in one of those out-of-the-way places where they so often escape the notice of the crowd, although they are its foremost men. At the top of the Royal College of Surgeons, in Lincoln’s-Inn Fields—à la belle étoile, as the French have it, that is to say, under the skylight—lived and labored QUEKETT, the microscopist. It is now long since he went away from us, and from the great things that are here called little, and the little things which are here held great; but while he worked in that scientific garret he was a sight to see. Odours, not by any means of Araby the Blest, saluted the nose that invaded the philosopher’s sanctum; but what has Philosophy to do with noses? Sights not by any means elegant or appetising met the visitor’s glance; but Science is not squeamish. Perhaps it was a wolf’s

liver upon which the Professor was working at the moment, hunting for parasites with a microscopic ardour that Lincolnshire might envy. A sheep with two heads, a chicken with three legs, the nicely cured head of a Dyak from Borneo, strange sea-weeds, odd-looking fish, and viscera of foreign gentlemen who had done with them under stress of curious wounds or mysterious diseases, new flowers, undescribed birds, egg-shells, feathers, wood, insects, butterflies—such was the collection of curiosities that surrounded the microscopist.

Some of these articles would be decidedly *faisandés*; but as we have said, the philosopher was profoundly indifferent. People sent him odd and interesting things from all parts of the world, knowing the patient labours of that scientific garret. It was an honourable but a nasty business to deliver the Professor's parcels; for the fish from China would spoil, in spite of alcohol, and the Dyak's head would not travel well off its owner's shoulders. Then in the London markets, and at many such places, there were watchful eyes for the Professor; and when something new or odd in nature turned up, he was sure to get it. The more the better; for there he sat under the skylights, while Nature rained her oddities and wonders in upon him, like a mother asking her child conundrums. And he was good at guessing them; working for ever with forceps and reflector and Microscope—slicing sections of bone and nerve—searching into infinitely little organisms—ever learning something new, and fixing it on a slide, for others to come and see. Comparative anatomist and microscopist, he studied the riddles in large print and small print, showing always the same great answer to be written in both, of beneficent and beautiful design. He worked away for the common information at the changes which disease effects upon tissues and organisations—changes which only the Microscope can reveal, and which even in these revelations of disease and degradation of formation present perfect shapes and forms of curious morbid beauty and colour. He told us a hundred novel things of the way in which Nature builds up her marvellous structures, cell by cell, on one great and simple plan. He studied the blood in health and disease, not as we see it, a red coagulating fluid, but as what it is, a stream of lymph, with discs like crimson coins, flowing along the channels of vein and artery. He disclosed secrets of color and character in the other fluids and substances of the body, by which

physicians have been aided to discover and arrest maladies; and last, though not least, in his labors with the little glass which gives an admittance to the world of infinity in the decreasing scale, he left us preparations neither of science nor surgery so much as of simple loveliness—the perfect forms and hues which Dame Nature prepares as carefully when we cannot see her work as when we can.

It is in memory of this patient workman of Science, who toiled out a quiet happy life under the skylights in Lincoln's-Inn Fields, that a Microscopic Club has just been established, entitled the Quekett Club. For the encouragement and practice of this most useful branch of science the association has been formed, and it very properly christens itself after the indefatigable and famous master of microscopic learning. The Club starts modestly under the presidency of Dr. Lankester, with a subscription of only ten shillings annually, and without an entrance fee. It is right, perhaps, that microscopical pretensions and infinitesimal subscriptions should signalise a conclave which only loves to investigate "the little." The Society will hold microscopic Soirées, read papers, discuss questions of interest in the world of the "insignificant," organise field excursions at proper seasons for the collection of living specimens, and range, in fact, the entire province of the minute. As that is infinite, the Society has much work cut out; for we know that "great fleas have little fleas upon their backs to bite 'em," and we are also told that "little fleas have lesser fleas and so *ad infinitum*." All these "happy families" belong to the Society, and with it will lie the task of bringing the Microscope to greater and greater use in hygienic medicine, in comparative physiology, in inquiries touching the nature and construction of ultimate matter, and a hundred other branches of lore which are opened to us by the simple operation of adding artificial lenses to our own, and borrowing at once the world-scape and the vision of a beetle or a fly. "Beetle-eyed" is a phrase that is used for blindness; but only the beetle and the Microscope can see the jewelry upon the back of the Brazilian "Scarabæus"—to our eyes a dull spot—to the beetle, and to the one-tenth object-glass a blaze of glorious flashing gems. There are many such discoveries for the Society yet to make, and it starts with a good name and as good a purpose.

Origin of the Club.

PRELIMINARY MEETINGS.

The following letter appeared in "Hardwicke's Science Gossip" for 1st May, 1865.

"PROPOSAL TO LONDON MICROSCOPISTS.—It appears to me, that some association amongst the amateur microscopists of London is desirable, which shall afford greater facilities for the communication of ideas and the resolution of difficulties than the present Society affords, and which, whilst in no respect hostile to the latter, shall give amateurs the opportunity of assisting each other as members of an amateur-society, with less pretensions, holding monthly meetings in some central locality, at an annual charge sufficient to cover the incidental expenses—say five shillings a year—on the plan of the Society of Amateur Botanists. By the publication of this letter, the general feeling of the parties interested will be ascertained, and by this future action determined."—*W. Gibson*.

N.B.—We insert our correspondent's communication, and would be glad to hear from any microscopists desirous of co-operating with him in carrying out his proposition.—*Ed. Sc. G.*

On receipt of this letter a meeting took place, at No. 5, Hanover Square, W., between Mr. M. C. Cooke, the President, and Mr. Bywater, and Mr. Ketteringham, members of the "Society of Amateur Botanists" (of which Mr. Gibson was also a Member). As the result of the discussion of the project it was determined to endeavour to establish a "Society of Amateur Microscopists" with the title of "The Quekett Club," and to call a Meeting at which the attendance of the following gentlemen should be invited:—

MR. W. M. BYWATER,
 „ M. C. COOKE,
 „ W. GIBSON,
 „ E. R. GODLEY,
 „ H. F. HAILES,
 „ R. HARDWICKE,
 „ S. HIGHLEY,
 „ E. JAQUES,
 „ T. KETTERINGHAM,
 „ E. MARKS,
 „ W. W. REEVES, and
 „ G. W. RUFFLE.

A Meeting was accordingly called for the 14th June, 1865, at Mr. Hardwicke's offices, No. 192, Piccadilly, W., which was attended by all the above gentlemen, except Mr. Reeves, who was unavoidably absent, and the following resolutions were passed. (Extracted from the Minute Book of the Club):—

After a few preliminary remarks from the Chairman (Mr. M. C. Cooke) explanatory of the general objects of the meeting, in which, whilst fully recognizing the great usefulness and general efficiency of "The Microscopical Society of London," he adverted to the feeling which appeared to be general amongst amateur microscopists, that a Society, more especially adapted to their requirements was desirable, and which instead of being antagonistic would be a helper to the original Society, by cherishing and developing microscopical pursuits, and thus becoming a nursery for the elder and present society, of which the one proposed would in reality be the offspring,

Mr. Gibson moved "That this Meeting considers it very desirable "to establish a Society of Amateur Microscopists, based on "economic principles, and that the gentlemen present be requested "to co-operate by bringing it under the notice of their friends." Seconded by Mr. Highley, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Jaques moved "That a Provisional Committee of five "gentlemen, to consist of Messrs. Cooke, Hardwicke, Gibson

“ Ketteringham, and Highley, be appointed to deliberate and report on
 “ the best means of carrying out the objects of the Meeting. Three
 “ to be a quorum.” Seconded by Mr. Ruffle, and carried unanimously.

Mr. Bywater was appointed Secretary to the Provisional Committee, and the Meeting was adjourned to the 7th July.

The adjourned Meeting was held at 8 o'clock on the evening of Friday the 7th July, 1865, at St. Martin's National School Rooms, Adelaide Place, Charing Cross, W., at which about sixty gentlemen were present.

The following resolutions were passed. (Extracted from the Minute Book):—

The Chairman (Mr. M. C. Cooke) having fully explained the objects and proposed business of the Meeting as already set forth in the Minutes of the Meeting held June the 14th, those Minutes were read and confirmed.

The following Report of the Provisional Committee was read and received.

“ The Special Committee appointed at the Meeting, June 14th, 1865, having met and deliberated on the best means of carrying out the objects in view, beg to recommend the following suggestions:—

“ 1. That the title of the Society be ‘ The Quekett Club or ‘ Amateur Microscopical Association,’ for mutual communications, field excursions, and other aids to microscopical pursuits.

“ 2. That the Meetings be held on the fourth Friday evening in every month, at Eight o'clock.

“ 3. That the Subscription be ten shillings per annum, payable in advance, to date from the 1st of July, 1865.

“ 4. That the business of the Club be conducted by a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Committee of twelve Members (four to be a quorum), a Treasurer, and a Secretary.”

On clause 1 being proposed for adoption, Mr. Richard Beek moved as an amendment, “ That the title of the Society be ‘ The Quekett Microscopical Club.’ ” This was seconded by Mr. W. H. Hall, put to the Meeting, carried, and the original motion negatived.

Clause 2 was adopted.

On clause 3 being proposed for adoption, Mr. W. H. Hall moved

as an amendment, "That the subscription be five shillings per annum, and after December 31 next, an entrance fee of two shillings and sixpence." On being seconded and put from the Chair, the amendment was negatived, and clause 3 was adopted.

Clause 4 was adopted.

It was proposed by Mr. Suffolk, and seconded by Mr. Wollaston, "That the Provisional Committee be empowered to carry on the business of the Club and receive subscriptions until the regular officers be duly appointed." Carried unanimously.

The Meeting then terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman, who announced that the next Meeting of the Club would be held on the 4th August, at Eight o'clock.

At the adjourned Meeting, held at the same place on the 4th August, 1865, the "Code of Bye Laws was read seriatim, and agreed to," as printed at page 19 of the first Report, and the election of officers for the year 1865-66 took place. (See Table)

The first Ordinary Meeting was held on the 25th August, 1865, at 32, Sackville Street, Piccadilly, W.

Dr. Lankester, the President, who was in the Chair, "gave a very interesting Inaugural Address, in which he sketched the gradual growth of microscopical inquiry, the difficulties which surrounded the observers of the latter part of last and the beginning of the present century. He also described the gradual development of the instrument from the simple lens to its present perfect compound form, and strongly impressed on the members the necessity of acquiring habits of close investigation and accurate observation, recommending them to take up and thoroughly investigate special objects of study, rather than waste their energies on too wide a field of research. He advocated the use of low in preference to high powers, as being easy to work with, and less likely to mislead the beginner in microscopy. The Microscope, he observed, was not to be considered as an aimless, luxurious toy, but as a working instrument, by the use of which the boundaries of science may be greatly extended. After complimenting the Committee on the title of the Club, which he considered aptly chosen, and moreover a gracefu

compliment to the memory of one whose name will ever be associated with the Microscope, Dr. Lankester concluded his address by wishing success to the Club.”*

The Minutes record the first exhibition of Objects thus:—

“It was recommended that any Member having objects to exhibit shall hand in a list of them to the Chairman, in order that they may be announced to the meeting.

“Many Members having brought their Microscopes and various interesting objects, the meeting resolved itself into a *Conversazione*.”

The first donation of Books is recorded in the Minutes of the second Ordinary Meeting, on 22nd September, 1865:—

“From Mr. S. Highley, ‘Quekett on the Microscope’; from Mr. M. C. Cooke, ‘Adams on the Microscope;’” and at this Meeting the first Paper was read by the latter gentleman on “Work for the Microscope.”

At the fourth Ordinary Meeting, on the 24th November, 1865, the first donations to the Cabinet were announced:—

“From Mr. E. Marks, twelve slides; from Mr. W. M. Bywater, six slides.”

This outline of the ‘Origin of the Club,’ may be appropriately completed by adding the concluding paragraph from the first report of the Committee, which is not less applicable now:—

“Satisfied with the past, hopeful in the future, it only remains for us to remind the members that it rests chiefly with themselves, individually, to advance the interests of the Club. Let the pleasure which they may have experienced at the Meetings be extended by the introduction of their friends, and as new members are enrolled we shall be multiplying the sources of enjoyment, and at the same time be enlarging the usefulness of the Club.”

THE ORIGINAL PROSPECTUS.

“This Club has been established for the purpose of affording to Microscopists, in and around the Metropolis, opportunities for meeting and exchanging ideas, without that diffidence and constraint which an Amateur naturally feels when discussing scientific subjects in the presence of Professional men.

“The increased study of Natural History, during late years, has

‘The Reader,’ 9th September, 1865.

created a large class of observers, who, although with limited leisure for such pursuits, possess, notwithstanding, earnestness of purpose, and ability to render good service in the cause of Microscopical investigation.

“The want of such a Club as the present has long been felt, wherein Microscopists and students with kindred tastes, might meet, at stated periods, to hold cheerful converse with each other, exhibit and exchange specimens, read papers on topics of interest, discuss doubtful points, compare notes of progress, and gossip over those special subjects in which they are more or less interested; where in fact each member would be solicited to bring his own individual experience, be it ever so small, and cast it into the treasury for the general good. Such are some of the objects which the present Club seeks to attain. In addition thereto it hopes to organise occasional Field Excursions, at proper seasons, for the collection of living specimens, to acquire a Library of such books of reference as will be most useful to enquiring students; and, trusting to the proverbial liberality of Microscopists, to add thereto a comprehensive Cabinet of objects. By these, and similar means, the Quekett Microscopical Club seeks to merit the support of all earnest men who may be devoted to such pursuits; and, by fostering and encouraging a love for Microscopical studies, to deserve the approval of men of science and more learned societies.

“The ordinary Meetings of the Club will be held on the fourth Friday of every month, at 8 o’clock in the evening, at No. 32, Sackville Street, Piccadilly.

“In order to place the advantages of this Club within the reach of all, the annual subscription has been limited to Ten Shillings, payable in advance, on the 1st of July in every year.

“Gentlemen desirous of becoming members are informed that *no entrance fee* is demanded, and that the Secretary will furnish them with all further particulars, which they may require, upon application by letter, addressed to No. 192, Piccadilly, W.”

OUR CLUB.

(From ‘*Hardwicke’s Science Gossip*,’ 1st September, 1866.)

“Life is a chain of surprises, to which every day adds a link,” is written by some one, but by whom we do not remember. Had the

self-same author known our little friend, who, like Sir Thomas the Good,

‘ Would pore by the hour,
O’er a weed or a flower,
Or the slugs that come crawling out after a shower ;
Still poking his nose into this and to that,
At a gnat, or a bat, or a cat, or a rat,
Or great ugly things,
All legs and wings,

With nasty long tails arm’d with nasty long stings :—’

Had he known that assiduous little type of a devotee to the Microscope twelve months ago, even *he* could never have imagined such a link in the chain of surprises, as the said devotee having “gone to his club.” We by no means allude to any personal and individual friend, but to that mythical member of the Q. M. C., who once a month covers his head and rushes from his Study, his Microscope, and his Canada balsam, to spend the evening at his Club.

This Journal had only fairly started into existence last year, when a correspondent inquired of us, in a communication addressed to the Editor, whether it would not be practicable to associate all the amateur microscopists of the metropolis in a society for their mutual benefit. This letter was printed (at p. 116 of vol. I.)* with a note appended, soliciting communications on the subject. So favourably was the proposition received, that it was considered advisable to call a meeting of all who might feel interested in the subject. The result was, that a provisional committee was organized, and the idea, which originated with one individual in May, became a realized fact in July; and (at page 189) the “Quekett Microscopical Club,” was announced as having commenced its career, which has been so successfully prosecuted during the past twelve months. Those loquacious old ladies who are so intimately associated with the advent of our juvenile population, are wont to pride themselves when any one of their *protégés* grows up as a “clever boy” and threatens to make “a noise in the world,” that it was a “child of their nursing.” In like manner *we* regard this offspring of a year as

* See p. 20

a child of our own nursing, with a longing to pat it on the head, and call it "Our Club."

We deem the present a favourable opportunity for making known to some of our readers *what* this institution *is*, of which we profess ourselves a little proud. The opportunity is a favourable one, because it just succeeds the close of its first year, and because, having presided at its birth, a little feminine loquacity from the "Gossip" of the occasion will be regarded as quite natural, and be pardoned accordingly.

According to custom, the Club issued its prospectus, in which the following paragraph occurs :—

"This Club has been established for the purpose of affording to Microscopists, in and around the metropolis, opportunities for meeting and exchanging ideas, without that diffidence and constraint which an amateur naturally feels when discussing scientific subject, in the presence of professional men."

Thus the general objects of the Club are set forth ; how they have been accomplished, a few facts gleaned from the report presented at the annual meeting will explain. After acknowledging the disadvantages under which Dr. Lankester accepted the office of President of the Club for the first year, and the able and courteous manner in which he filled that office, and after paying a just tribute to the memory of the first member removed from the Club by death, Joseph Toynbee, F.R.S., who was at the period of his decease nominated as President for the ensuing year, the report adverts to the great success of class instruction in microscopical manipulation under the superintendence of Mr. W. T. Suffolk, and gives hopes of its being resumed. The field excursions are also alluded to as having been satisfactory, the first of these—to Hampstead Heath—being one Saturday afternoon, and the second to Darent Wood and Swanscombe Marshes, on the 26th June. It is gratifying to learn that this truly practical phase in the operations of the Club was highly appreciated by the members, and received their cordial support. As good collections of objects are said to have been made on both occasions, these excursions are likely to be continued at intervals during the summer months. With regard to the library of books of reference, we are only informed that several donations have been

received ; hence, it may be inferred that another valuable adjunct to an association of this description has not been forgotten.

It is not less gratifying to learn that one hundred and twenty three slides of mounted objects have been contributed by members during the past year, and the Committee shrewdly allude to the fact that one of the members has presented a cabinet capable of containing an additional three hundred and fifty. Let us hope that the "canny" hint will not be forgotten.

The list of papers read at the monthly meetings may be taken as an index of the kind of topics which have occupied the attention of the Club. "Work for the Microscope," by M. C. Cooke ; "Spiraeles of Insects," by R. Beck ; "Five new forms of Microscopical Fungi" and "The Application of the Microscope to the Discrimination of Vegetable Fibres," by M. C. Cooke ; "How to arrange and keep a Cabinet," by J. Bockett ; "A New form of Microscope," by W. Hislop ; "Class Instruction," by W. T. Suffolk ; "The Respiratory Organs of Insects," by J. A. Archer ; "Manipulation with Canada Balsam," by D. E. Goddard ; "Universal Microscopical Admeasurements," by M. C. Cooke ; "The Application of Photography and the Magic Lantern to Microscopical Demonstrations," by S. Highley ; "Some Motions in the Pale Blood-Corpuseles," by H. Wigg ; and "The Pigment Cells of Plants in some of their varied Forms and Structure," by N. Burgess.

Allusion is made in the Report to a sub-committee which has been appointed for the examination of vegetable fibres, with an intimation that an interesting report might be anticipated at the close of their labours.

A brief paragraph announces the important fact, that one hundred and fifty-five members have been admitted during the year, and that their interest in the proceedings of the Club "has been manifested, not only by the good attendance at the meetings, but also by the free discussion and friendly intercourse which has been maintained, and which it is hoped may be still further increased by the genial influences of a *soirée* at no very distant period." This is the climax of the Report.

At first the meetings of the Club were held in a very comfortable and commodious room in Sackville Street, but the rapid increase, and

large attendance of members, soon made it manifest that the accommodation was far too limited. In fact, the baby's feet were in danger of being crippled by little boots. In this dilemma, by favour of the Council of University College, the Club removed to the Library of that Institution, where its meetings are now held on the fourth Friday of every month, at eight o'clock.

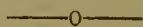
Having given this brief epitome of the first Report of the Quekett Microscopical Club, we may be permitted to add that the low rate of subscription, which is only ten shillings per annum, and no entrance fee, places its advantages within the reach of all amateurs, and it would cause in us but little surprise if the number of its members should be nearly doubled during the ensuing year, especially with such an "earnest heart" in the work.

Anyone who has attended the meetings, and conversed with the members of this Club during its brief career, will not fail to have observed the genial spirit of friendly intercourse which prevails, and the total absence of anything approaching to invidious comparison, jealousy, or antagonism, whereby any other fellow-workers in the same field, though in other associations, can feel themselves aggrieved. "Our Club" is named, perhaps, with a feeling of pride, but not of ostentation, and if they are not addicted to seeking for blame in others, it may be attributed to the earnestness with which they are in pursuit of their own studies, and the good will with which they are striving to benefit each other, and advance the cause of microscopical science.

The prominence which we have given to this subject, or, indeed any notice of it whatever, may at first appear to have been impolitic in us, who address more readers beyond the boundary of the operations of the Club than within it. Still we would hope that a twofold purpose has been served. Microscopists far away will learn what some of their metropolitan brethren have been doing for themselves, and the successful establishment of one such association may, when known, be the means of inducing similar efforts in other cities, where hitherto nothing of the kind has been attempted. Whether as news or example, therefore, we commit this brief record to their attention.

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(1878-9.)



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COMMITTEE AND OFFICERS OF THE CLUB, FROM 1865 TO 1878.

(Compiled from the Annual Reports, with Names, &c., as there given, but arranged alphabetically throughout).

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1866	Ernest Hart	Arthur E. Durham, F.L.S., Tilbury Fox, M.D., M.R.C.P., William Hislop, F.R.A.S., John K. Lord, F.Z.S.	"	"	—	J. A. Archer—Richard Beck—J. Bockett—O. J. Brose—P. Le Neve Foster, M.A.—W. Gibson—H. F. Hailes—S. Highley, F.G.S.—E. Jaques—T. Ketteringham—W. W. Reeves—Joseph Smith	—	—	—	W. J. De L. Arnold W. W. Reeves Joseph Smith W. T. Suffolk	—
1867	Arthur E. Durham, F.L.S.	Tilbury Fox, M.D., M.R.C.P., Ernest Hart William Hislop, F.R.A.S., John K. Lord, F.Z.S.	"	"	M. C. Cooke	J. A. Archer—W. J. De L. Arnold—J. Bockett—H. F. Hailes—S. Highley, F.G.S.—E. Jaques—T. Ketteringham—S. J. McIntire—W. W. Reeves—J. Slade	Richard T. Lewis	Edward Jaques, F.R.M.S.	G. W. Ruffie	W. J. De L. Arnold F. W. Gay W. W. Reeves W. T. Suffolk	J. Bockett W. Hislop W. W. Reeves
1868	"	R. Braithwaite, M.D., F.L.S., M. C. Cooke J. M. Dempsey, M.D., F. C. S. Roper, F.L.S.	"	"	"	W. J. De L. Arnold—J. Bockett—C. J. Brose—N. Burgess—T. W. Burr, F.R.A.S.—F. W. Gay—W. J. Gray, M.D.—H. F. Hailes—T. Ketteringham—H. T. Lewis—S. J. McIntire—J. Slade	"	"	"	"	J. Bockett H. F. Hailes W. Hislop, F.R.A.S., E. Marks
1869	Philip Le Neve Foster, M.A.	R. Braithwaite, M.D., F.L.S., Witham M. Bywater, Arthur E. Durham, F.L.S., &c., H. F. Hailes	"	T. Charters White, M.R.C.S., F.R.M.S.	"	W. J. De L. Arnold—J. Bockett—T. W. Burr, F.R.A.S., &c.—T. Crook—F. W. Gay—W. J. Gray, M.D.—T. Ketteringham—R. T. Lewis—B. T. Lowrie, M.R.C.S.—S. J. McIntire—J. Matthews, M.D.—J. Slade	(Editor—W. Hislop, F.R.A.S.)	"	"	"	"
1870	Professor Lionel S. Beale, M.B., F.R.S., F.R.M.S.	Robert Braithwaite, M.D., F.L.S., F.R.M.S., Arthur E. Durham, F.R.C.S., F.R.M.S., Peter Le Neve Foster, M.A., F.R.M.S., Henry Lee, F.L.S., F.R.M.S.	"	"	"	W. Allbon, F.R.M.S.—J. Bockett, F.R.M.S.—T. W. Burr, F.R.A.S.—W. M. Bywater, F.R.M.S.—T. Crook, F.R.M.S.—W. J. Gray, M.D., F.R.M.S.—T. Ketteringham—R. T. Lewis, F.R.M.S.—B. T. Lowrie, M.R.C.S.—S. J. McIntire, F.R.M.S.—J. Matthews, M.D.—Charles F. White, F.R.M.S.	—	"	"	"	"
1871	"	Robert Braithwaite, M.D., F.L.S., F.R.M.S., Arthur E. Durham, F.R.C.S., F.R.M.S., Chas. J. Leek, F.L.S., F.R.M.S., Henry Lee, F.L.S., F.R.M.S.	"	"	" (M.A.)	W. Allbon, F.R.M.S.—T. W. Burr, F.R.A.S.—W. M. Bywater, F.R.M.S.—T. Crook, F.R.M.S.—W. H. Golding—T. Greenish, F.R.M.S.—B. T. Lowrie, M.R.C.S.—W. T. Loy, F.R.M.S.—S. J. McIntire, F.R.M.S.—E. Marks—J. Matthews, M.D.—Charles F. White, F.R.M.S.	R. T. Lewis, F.R.M.S.	"	"	F. W. Gay, F.R.M.S., W. W. Reeves, F.R.M.S., W. T. Suffolk, F.R.M.S., F. Oxley	H. F. Hailes W. Hislop E. Marks
1872	Dr. Robert Braithwaite, F.R.M.S., F.L.S.	Dr. Lionel S. Beale, F.R.S., F.R.M.S., Arthur E. Durham, F.R.C.S., F.R.M.S., Henry Lee, F.L.S., F.R.M.S., Dr. Matthews	"	"	"	W. Allbon, F.R.M.S.—T. W. Burr, F.R.A.S.—W. M. Bywater, F.R.M.S.—W. H. Golding—Thos. Greenish, F.R.M.S.—John Inghen, F.R.M.S.—B. Daydon Jackson—W. T. Loy, F.R.M.S.—Edward Marks—Fred. Oxley—J. M. Ramsbotham, M.D.—Charles F. White, F.R.M.S.	"	Alphens Smith	"	"	H. F. Hailes E. Marks
1873	"	T. W. Burr, F.R.A.S., F.R.M.S., B. T. Lowrie, F.R.C.S., F.R.M.S., Dr. Matthews, F.R.M.S., Chas. F. White, F.R.M.S.	"	John E. Inghen, F.R.M.S., (Assistant Secretary, E. Marks)	"	W. M. Bywater, F.R.M.S.—Frank Crisp, LL.B., B.A., F.R.M.S.—W. H. Golding—Thos. Greenish, F.R.M.S.—H. F. Hailes—F. H. P. Hind—B. Daydon Jackson—W. T. Loy, F.R.M.S.—Fred. Oxley—J. M. Ramsbotham, M.D.—J. G. Waller—T. C. White, M.R.C.S., F.R.M.S.	"	"	"	"	"
1874	John Matthews, M.D., F.R.M.S.	Dr. Braithwaite, F.L.S., F.R.M.S., B. T. Lowrie, F.R.C.S., F.R.M.S., Chas. F. White, F.R.M.S., T. Charters White, M.R.C.S., F.R.M.S.	"	" (n)	"	W. A. Bevington, F.R.M.S.—Frank Crisp, LL.B., B.A., F.R.M.S.—Dr. Foulerton—H. F. Hailes—F. H. P. Hind—B. Daydon Jackson—E. T. Newton, F.G.S.—Fred. Oxley—T. Rogers, F.R.M.S.—J. C. Sigsworth, F.R.M.S.—J. G. Waller—George Williams	"	"	"	"	"
1875	"	F. Crisp, LL.B., B.A., F.R.M.S., R. T. Lewis, F.R.M.S., B. T. Lowrie, M.R.C.S., F.R.M.S., T. Charters White, M.R.C.S., F.R.M.S.	F. W. Gay, F.R.M.S.	" (n)	" (L.L.D.)	W. A. Bevington, F.R.M.S.—J. Foulerton, M.D.—H. F. Hailes—F. H. P. Hind—M. Hawkins Johnson, F.G.S.—E. T. Newton, F.G.S.—Fred. Oxley—T. Rogers, F.L.S., F.R.M.S.—J. C. Sigsworth, F.R.M.S.—Joseph A. Smith—J. G. Waller—George Williams	"	"	"	F. W. Gay, F.R.M.S., Frederick Oxley W. W. Reeves, F.R.M.S., T. Rogers, F.L.S., F.R.M.S., W. T. Suffolk, F.R.M.S.	"
1876	Henry Lee, Esq., F.L.S., F.G.S., F.R.M.S., &c.	H. F. Hailes, John Matthews, M.D., F.R.M.S., J. G. Waller, T. Charters White, M.R.C.S., F.R.M.S.	"	"	"	F. W. Andrew—W. A. Bevington, F.R.M.S.—A. Cottam, F.R.A.S.—C. G. Dunning—J. Foulerton, M.D.—J. W. Gooding, F.R.A.S., &c.—M. Hawkins Johnson, F.G.S.—E. T. Newton, F.G.S.—Frederick Oxley—T. Rogers, F.L.S., F.R.M.S.—J. C. Sigsworth, F.R.M.S.—Joseph A. Smith	"	"	H. F. Hailes G. W. Ruffie	"	"
1877	"	F. Crisp, LL.B., B.A., F.R.M.S., John Matthews, M.D., F.R.M.S., E. T. Newton, F.G.S., T. Charters White, M.R.C.S., F.R.M.S.	"	"	" (A.L.S.)	F. W. Andrew—A. Cottam, F.R.A.S.—C. G. Dunning—W. H. Gilbert—J. W. Gooding, F.R.A.S., &c.—M. Hawkins Johnson, F.G.S.—Frederick Oxley—F. A. Parsons—B. W. Priest—T. Rogers, F.L.S., F.R.M.S.—Joseph A. Smith—T. Spencer, F.C.S., F.R.M.S.	"	"	H. F. Hailes	"	—
1878	Professor T. H. Huxley, F.R.S.	Henry Lee, F.L.S., F.G.S., F.R.M.S., F.Z.S., John Matthews, M.D., F.R.M.S., Charles Stewart, M.R.C.S., F.L.S., F.R.M.S., T. Charters White, M.R.C.S., L.D.S., F.R.M.S.	"	"	"	F. W. Andrew—A. Cottam, F.R.A.S.—Frank Crisp, LL.B., B.A., &c.—C. G. Dunning—W. H. Gilbert—J. W. Gooding, F.R.A.S.—A. D. Michael, F.R.M.S.—E. T. Newton, F.G.S.—Frederick Oxley—F. A. Parsons—B. W. Priest—T. Spencer, F.C.S., F.R.M.S.	"	"	Charles Emery H. F. Hailes	F. W. Gay, F.R.M.S., Frederick Oxley W. W. Reeves, F.R.M.S., T. Rogers, F.L.S., F.R.M.S., James Spencer, F.R.M.S.	—

The Third Annual Dinner,

23rd November, 1878.

Members and Visitors Present.

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The Dinner took place in the Princees' Saloon of the Holborn Restaurant, High Holborn, W.C., on Saturday the 23rd November, 1878.

Nearly 100 Members and Visitors were present.

The Chair was occupied by

FRANK CRISP, Esq., LL.B., B.A., F.L.S., Sec. R.M.S.

The Chairman was supported (on the right) by the President, Professor Huxley, LL.D., F.R.S., &c., John Westlake, Esq., LL.D., Q.C., Joseph Addison, Esq., &c. (on the left), by John Morris, Esq., F.R.M.S., F.Z.S., Dr. A. Carpenter, M.D., J.P. (President of the Croydon Microscopical and Natural History Club), Dr. H. Woodward, LL.D., F.R.S., &c.

Amongst the Members of the Club present were:—

Henry Lee, Esq., F.L.S., F.G.S., F.R.M.S., Dr. Matthews, M.D., F.R.M.S., C. Stewart, Esq., M.R.C.S., F.L.S., Sec. R.M.S., and T. Charters White, Esq., M.R.C.S., L.D.S., F.R.M.S. (*Vice-Presidents* of the Club).

J. E. Ingpen, Esq., F.R.M.S. (*the Hon. Secretary*).

Dr. M. C. Cooke, M.A., LL.D., A.L.S. (*the Hon. Sec. for Foreign Correspondence*).

A. Smith, Esq. (*the Hon. Librarian*).

Messrs. C. G. Dunning, A. D. Michael, F.R.M.S., F. Oxley, F. A. Parsons, and T. Spence, F.C.S., F.R.M.S., (*of the Committee of the Club*).

W. W. Reeves, Esq., F.R.M.S. (*of the Excursion Committee*).

T. Curties, Esq., F.R.M.S., and J. W. Goodinge, Esq. F.R.G.S., F.R.M.S. (*of the Dinner Committee*), and

Messrs. William Ackland, L.S.A., F.R.M.S., W. A. Bevington, F.R.M.S., C. S. Bentley, F.R.M.S., G. L. Baker, B. Blenkinsop,

J. W. Brigstock, J. S. Crisp, F.R.M.S., A. C. Cole, F. Coles, F.L.S., E. Crofton, M.A., F.R.M.S., H. Crouch, F.R.M.S., James Death, Junr., W. S. Dallas, F.L.S., F. Despointes, E. Dadswell, E. H. Flux, C. J. Fox, F.R.M.S., R. S. Garden, G. Green, A. de S. Guimaraens, F.R.M.S., W. Hainworth, Junr., D. Howard, R. Headley, F.R.G.S., J. D. Hardy, W. H. B. Hunt, F.R.M.S., C. W. Hovenden, F.R.M.S., J. A. Johnson, J. M. Knight, C. J. Kindon, W. Moginie, F.R.M.S., S. J. McIntire, F.R.M.S., J. Pearson, R. A. Potts, J. W. Reed, F.R.G.S., C. S. Rolfe, H. J. Roper, F.R.M.S., J. Rowe, Junr., M.R.C.V.S., G. W. Ruffle, W. J. Seofield, M.R.C.S., F.L.S., T. Simpson, James Smith, F.L.S., F.R.M.S., Ernest Swain, J. J. Simmons, L.D.S., W. H. Sheehy, M.D., G. Thorpe, W. H. Thornthwaite, J. Turnbull, F. H. Ward, M.R.C.S., F.R.M.S., G. Wheeler, and other *Members of the Club*.

Messrs. T. Aekland, T. W. Barnes, W. G. Chovil, J. Cooper, J. Fox, B. Harden, A. W. Ireton, T. Ketteringham, H. Lee, Junr., C. Lemprière, D.C.L., C. A. Lucas, W. H. May, F. Moore, M.R.C.V.S., W. Morris, Junr., J. Pullan, J. M. Reed, Charles Rose, C. B. Tree, J. Tregaskis, G. A. Tregaskis, C. E. White, J. S. Wilson, S. K. Wilson, F.R.G.S. M.R.I., and other *Visitors*.

DINNER WAS SERVED AT SEVEN O'CLOCK.

Mr. HARKER, the City Toast Master, officiated.

* The First and Second Annual Dinners were given at the same place on the 25th November, 1876, and 1st December, 1877, Mr. Henry Lee, F.L.S., F.G.S., F.R.M.S., &c., the President of the Club in the chair.

Menu.

POTAGES.

Fausse Tortue. Consommé à la Royale.

POISSONS.

Blanchaille. Cabillaud, Sauce aux Huitres.

ENTREES.

Ris de Veau en Caisse. Salmis de Gibier.

RELEVES.

Côtes de Bœuf rôti au Raifort.

Blanche de Mouton rôti à la Gelée de Groseille.

LEGUMES.

Pommes de Terre Naturelle.

Epinard au Jus. Choufleur à la Sauce.

Pommes de Terre à la Maître d'Hotel.

Chou de Bruxelles.

ENTREMETS.

Poudings de Cabinet. D'Artois au Confiture.

Gelée au Fruit. Glacé Panaché.

Fromage. Salado à la Française.

DESSERT.

Oranges. Grenades. Noisettes. Pommes.

Amandes et Raisins. Noisettes de Bresil.

Melons. Olivcs.

Programme of Music.

1. MARSCH "Constantin" *Josef Gung'l.*
2. OVERTURE "Esmeralda" *A. Hermann.*
3. WALZER... "Stimmen aus dem Publicum"... .. *Strauss.*
4. SELECTION... Rossini's "William Tell" *Rivière.*
5. POLKA MILITAIRE, "Les Fifres de la Garde" *J. Ascher.*
6. DUETTO ... Harp and Pianoforte, Bellini's
Opera "Se Romeo" I Capu-
letti e Montecchi *Bochsa.*
(Messrs. Stratford and Ripley)
7. OVERTURE ... "La Gazza Ladra" *Rossini.*
8. VALSE "Pomone" .. *Emile Waldteufel.*
9. GAVOTTE "La Princesse" *Florian Pascal.*
10. EUPHONIUM SOLO, Grand Aire Varie, Doni-
zetti's Opera, "Anna Boleno" *E. Reyloff.*
(Mr. F. Blake)
11. HARP SOLO "Home, Sweet Home" (et varie), *Stratford.*
(Mr. R. H. Stratford)
12. WALZER "Alexandra" *Josef Gung'l.*
13. OVERTURE "La Sirene" *Auber.*
14. QUADRILLE "The Sorcerer" *Ch. D'Albert.*
15. GALOP "Eastern Courier"... .. *G. H. Adams.*

MUSICAL DIRECTOR - - - - MR. J. RIPLEY.

Grace having been said by the Toast Master, the following

Toasts

WERE PROPOSED.

PROPOSED BY		RESPONDED TO BY
<i>The Chairman.</i>	{ The Queen, and the Royal Family. }	—
<i>The Chairman.</i>	{ Prosperity to the Quekett Microscopi- cal Club. }	—
<i>Mr. T. Charters White.</i>	The President.	<i>Prof. Huxley.</i>
<i>Mr. T. Spencer.</i>	{ The Royal Microscopi- cal and Kindred Societies. }	<i>Mr. C. Stewart. Dr. A. Carpenter.</i>
<i>Mr. C. Stewart.</i>	The Chairman.	<i>Mr. Frank Crisp.</i>
<i>Dr. Matthews.</i>	{ The Treasurer, Secre- taries and Officers of the Club }	<i>Dr. M. C. Cooke. Mr. J. E. Ingpen.</i>
<i>The President.</i>	The Visitors.	<i>Mr. J. Westlake, Q.C. Dr. H. Woodward.</i>
<i>The Chairman.</i>	The Dinner Committee.	<i>Mr. T. Curties.</i>

“THE QUEEN AND THE ROYAL FAMILY.”

MR. CRISP: In drinking the health of Her Majesty the Queen, and the rest of the Royal Family, we do not of course consider it as in any way a “microscopic” toast, but even if there were no question of loyalty in the matter, in drinking it, we should show the versatility of our powers—like the steam hammer, which can crack the smallest nut or flatten the most ponderous substances.

I hope that I am not forfeiting the character of a reasonably loyal subject if I express regret that the claims of Science have not received more recognition—more notice—from the highest places in this country; that, in regard to our own particular branch, in all the Royal Palaces, with all their wealth of art, the Microscope should not find a place, and this in an Empire on which the Sun never sets, and which is, therefore, peculiarly the home of the microscopist. (Laughter.) I give you the health of Her Majesty the Queen and the rest of the Royal Family.

The toast was drunk with the customary honours, and some verses of the National Anthem sung, Mr. T. Charters White officiating at the piano.

“PROSPERITY TO THE QUEKETT MICROSCOPICAL CLUB.”

MR. CRISP: We have now arrived at that period of the evening when, as those of you who are accustomed to frequent public dinners are aware, the Chairman proceeds to deliver himself of a volume of details and statistics in regard to the Society over whose festivities he is presiding, the end and object of which is to extract money from the pockets either of the members or of their guests.

Although in our case we have no hat to go round, and it is, therefore, unnecessary, with any object of pecuniary benefit, to enter into details as to the position of our Society, it may not be out of place on an occasion like this to spend a few minutes in a consideration of our past and present position, and in an

endeavour to form some practical resolutions with the view to an improvement on our condition in the future.

It has been said that if a man wants to know what are the doubtful points in his character, the surest way of acquiring the information is to quarrel with his dearest friend, but I venture to think that if we were to quarrel with all our dearest friends, we should not find one who would say anything but good of us. I think we may fairly claim, although it is we who claim it, that there is not to be found throughout the whole of this country, throughout Europe, or throughout the world, a purely scientific society, as we are, which can be said to be more "flourishing," in the fullest and truest sense of the word.

If we take numbers as a test, we find that in 1866, at the end of the first year of our existence, we numbered scarcely more than 150, whilst in the present year our numbers nearly reach a total of 600.

If we turn again to the question of finances, it will be seen that we have always lived well within our means. Although our annual Soirée was a source of gratification to a considerable number of our members, yet when we found that the continuation of it annually would be likely to endanger the proper balance of our pecuniary resources, we, without hesitation and without opposition, made it a biennial matter. In such a case a private individual would be entitled to credit as a prudent and an honourable man, and I see no reason why a similar character should not be given to a public society which acts in the same way.

But it may be said that the test of numbers and the test of financial prudence is only a small part of the matter, that the essential question is, and must be, whether we have done good and beneficial work in the sphere which was marked out for us by our founders.

I think that we shall be equally able to stand this more extended test. In my opinion there never was a Society which more rigidly and steadfastly adhered to its original programme than we have done; not allowing ourselves to be diverted by any of the many temptations that have beset us, nor allowing our heads to be turned by unexpected prosperity.

One of the cardinal principles of our founders was that we should not endeavour to soar too high. Although Old Herbert's maxim that "he that aims the sky shoots higher far than he that means a tree" holds good as a general rule, yet, like all such general principles, it is open to exceptions and modifications, of which we were I think very properly made one.

Those of you who were present a few meetings back will remember that our earnest, zealous, and anxious Secretary fell somewhat foul of me for an opinion which I ventured to express, bearing upon this point, and that he felt it his duty to administer to the meeting an antidote—I might say an emetic—(laughter) to counteract the poison which he considered I had distilled into their minds. I don't think that if we sat down together and talked the matter over, we should after all really disagree in the opinion, that it has been to our steady adherence to this principle of our Founders, as much as to anything else, that the solidity of our present position is due.

I can notice only briefly the other points that have contributed to our success. The interest which is taken in the papers and discussions at our Ordinary Meetings is not excelled by that shown at any of the Meetings which I have ever attended of the principal learned Societies. Our fortnightly excursion system has gone on without interruption, and has been followed not only by kindred societies in England (one of whom, the Birmingham Society has enlarged the idea to include an annual excursion to the Islands of Western Scotland), but it has now been adopted, as I see, by Societies in the United States and in the Australian Colonies. It is no mean boast, whether for an individual or a Society, that its influence has made itself felt throughout the length and breadth of the world. We have also kept up our system of holidays—that is of having no holidays,—in which I believe I am correct in saying we set an unique example; and although this is a severe tax upon our officers, we have never found those officers shirk the duties so continuously cast upon them.

Last, but not least, we have maintained, and indeed have increased, that spirit of geniality and socialness, which I hope we are not arrogant in regarding as the mark of differentiation

which distinguishes the Quekett variety of the species *Homo scientificus* from all other varieties of that numerous species.—(Laughter).

Although I have no desire and no right to trespass upon the province of our friend Mr. Charters White, who will follow me in a toast which will I know be drunk with unbounded enthusiasm, yet I can hardly be expected to leave the consideration of our present position without at least a general reference to the important fact that the Presidency of the Society has been accepted by such a man as Professor Huxley. However much we may have been inclined to believe before that we were pure gold that required no refining, it will, I think, be agreed that we have thereby obtained a "Hall mark," which will endure for a long time—a mark which will render it unnecessary for us to be assayed when we put forward our pretensions—one which will prevent anyone saying that we are after all only gingerbread gilt.

I confess that I looked forward to the first meeting at which Professor Huxley was to be present with not a little trepidation. I feared that he might have been induced to accept the office by some glowing and highly colored accounts of our many virtues, and it was with great relief and great satisfaction that I found that, so far from being disappointed, he was surprised. I don't think I am improperly betraying any confidences in saying that when he asked me whether our meetings were always like that, there was (if he will forgive me for saying so), just the slightest shade of incredulity in his tone. I was able to state, and as you know it was in accordance with the fact, that beyond a somewhat increased number of those present who were very naturally influenced by the desire of showing that we appreciated his presence, the quality of the sample was in all respects equal to the bulk.

It would be in vain however to indulge in self gratulations as to the past or the present, unless we gave some consideration also to the future, as to what we can do to improve and consolidate our position.

One of our friends remarked before dinner that our Sun had now reached its meridian. With all deference to my friend, I don't like that simile. The meridian is no resting place, the Sun, when

it has once got there, has an ugly habit of descending rapidly on the other side, and leaving us in the darkness of night. I am sure I may so far speak for our President as to say, that when his term of office expires, rather than it should be said that he had left our Sun at its meridian, he would prefer it to be said that he had helped it to rise fairly above the horizon, that he had left us with every promise of a long, full, and bright day before us.

This is not the place nor have we the time to review in detail, or even generally, the many points in regard to which (notwithstanding the eulogia we have been passing upon ourselves) we are open to improvement, and I will confine myself therefore to dealing with one, and one only,—and that is a question connected with an increase in the number of our members.

There are two aspects from which the matter may be regarded, one which I should be inclined to call “practical,” but as some may consider that too gross and too material, I will put it in an alternative form, and so I hope that I shall meet all susceptibilities. Since we came into this room, some of us, at the other tables at any rate, have been actively engaged in a pursuit which is not as a rule classed either amongst the higher moral or scientific pursuits, and it is an occasion therefore on which it will not be so wholly incongruous as it might be on others to deal with the “practical” branch.

I think I am correct in believing that few if any of us who are present here this evening are “gentlemen,”—gentlemen, that is, in the sense in which the word was defined by, I don’t remember who, but Sheridan or Sidney Smith will do, who said that a “gentleman” was “a person who had no business in this world.” (Laughter.) We all of us have business in this world, and we mostly turn to the Microscope as a means of relaxation and recreation, but when we escape from the atmosphere which has had about it directly or indirectly the halo of money into what is called the “purer” atmosphere of science, we do not unfortunately escape from the influences which money exercises for good or for evil. We still find ourselves trammelled by such considerations—we still find that, with all the interest we may take in our particular pursuit, with all the earnestness

with which we may endeavour to extend it, our sphere of usefulness will be restricted and confined by any deficiencies in pecuniary resources.

This has always, I think, been recognized, in the microscopical world at any rate, up to a recent date. I see, however, that the Editor of the "American Quarterly Microscopical Journal" states in his Prospectus that his Journal (to which I very heartily wish success) is intended to be conducted "regardless of all commercial considerations." I think we know what the end of that Journal must be. It is too good for this world, and unless its programme is changed a day will come when "to be continued in our next" will apply only to a higher and a better sphere. (Laughter.)

If it be asked, what use we could properly make of more money than we have, I need only point to the Library alone as furnishing a means of most usefully and most judiciously expending any amount that we are ever at all likely to command. It is not simply that it is only in the libraries of private individuals that any considerable number of the books that have been published on the Microscope are to be found, but I am sure that incalculable benefit would be done to many—very many—of our members, if they had the opportunity of resorting to a scientific library, from which they might obtain and read at their own homes, not all the books that have been published in regard to Natural History or the Microscope, or even a tithe of them, but at least all those leading and standard works, the perusal of which is essential, if we desire, as we ought all to desire, to be something more than mere smatterers or diletanti.

There is, of course, only one way in which we can obtain what I suggest without loss of self-respect, without loss of self-reliance, and that is by an increase in the number of our members.

There cannot surely be any difficulty in securing this, if only we set about it in a systematic manner. There must be—there are—very many people who do not join us simply because they do not know of the advantages which the Society affords, and who, if they were aware of them, would without doubt, be willing and anxious to join us.

I don't suggest, that to make those advantages known we should add to our staff of officers, in addition to the Honorary Secretary, the Honorary Librarian, and the Honorary Curator, a new officer, an "Honorary Missionary" (Laughter.) There is a better plan than that—the plan according to which, in the historical anecdote, the streets of Jerusalem were kept clean—every man swept before his own door. If, I won't say every member of the Club, but if as many members as are represented here this evening, would determine on the 1st January in each year, that he would within that year propose one new member, in five years, we should have obtained nearly all we want, in ten years we should have even more than enough. The trouble to the individual would be infinitesimal, whilst the benefit to the Society at large, by similar exertions spread over a considerable body of the members, would be very great. It matters not whether the person on whom he fixes his eye is rich or poor. If he is a rich man, who is not able to attend our meetings, he may still be flattered with the notion—which would not be a false notion—that he has become a patron of science. If he is a poor man, he may be assured without exaggeration that he will receive full value for his money—that for the small sum of less than 1s. a month, for in fact 10s. a year, he may obtain an amount of mental and bodily good that it will be difficult for him to obtain elsewhere for an equal expenditure.

But it may be objected that this is too material a way of looking at the matter—that, as has been said in other societies, it would not be dignified for us to be "tonting" for members. However much that may apply (if it does apply) to the leading scientific societies, I don't think such an objection is one that at all presses upon us.

Apart altogether from any question of our own benefit, and regarding the matter as æsthetically as anyone could wish, there is still ample justification for a little wholesome proselytism for the souls' good of the persons operated on.

We send long distances across the seas to convert benighted heathen to what we consider to be right, but here at our own doors are thousands and millions of poor, blind, benighted, micro-

scopic heathen (loud laughter)—present company, if there be any such, of course excepted—who, if they are left alone, will leave this world without having had even a glimpse of the most wonderful and most beautiful parts of it—people who are so plunged in the darkness of ignorance, that, if all the Microscopes in the world were put in a bonfire to-day and burnt, would be just as happy to-morrow as they were yesterday.

When I think of the vast multitudes of such heathen—people who care nothing because they know nothing of things in the world which are far more extraordinary than anything they have ever yet seen, I am pressed with an anxiety to do something for them. I know that enthusiasts in any particular pursuit always think that all the world ought to agree with them, and that if it does not it is the world that is wrong—the story of the eleven obstinate jurymen, in fact—but I really do think that in our case we may repeat that story without having the laugh turned against us. If all the world followed Art while we desired them to follow Science, it would be a case to which *de gustibus non disputandum* would apply, but we see that if, for instance, there comes to the Zoological Gardens a monkey with a blue tail, a bird of exceptional plumage, or any other animal with some slight novelty about it, all the world are apparently so much interested in natural objects that they flock to see them, and yet these same people do not make the feeblest attempt to see at their own fireside the far more wonderful, the far more beautiful, and if that is what they want, the far more exceptional natural objects, which the Microscope reveals.

There must be something radically wrong in such a state of things as this, and the endeavour to correct it may surely supply “a New Field for the Microscopist,” more extended than that to which we have lately had our attention called. From whatever point we look at it, whether from a low or a high one, there is still plenty of scope for our exertions. We should benefit our fellow creatures if, to go so low as that, we saved them from the hungerings of that *ennui* which they now only satisfy by the too often thin and unsubstantial food of the three volume novel, or the penny magazine; or in the highest sphere of all we shall

still find scope. If it were any part of my vocation to unmake Atheists, I should leave at home the Bible and Prayer-Book, and take with me nothing but a Microscope and a box of slides (laughter)—and if, after exhibiting that box of slides, I had not been able to produce an effect, I should give it up as hopeless.

A little, therefore, of that practical zeal which in other spheres sends men willingly into the highways and hedges to compel them to come in, might, I think, be exercised in our particular sphere with profit also.

I am afraid I have overstepped somewhat the limits prescribed by time, and by your patience ; but when once I get on this subject I am apt to lose myself in wonder and astonishment at the condition of the people that live without a Microscope in the world—astonishment that every man does not possess a Microscope as certainly as he has an umbrella. (Laughter.) Only another word, and I have done.

People are fond of saying, in reference to the title of “Microscopical,” that there is no such a science as “Microscopy ;” that there are no such people as “Microscopists.” When I hear that it always reminds me—as the Sultana in the “Arabian Nights” used to say, “that reminds me of the story”—of the man in the stocks. A bystander inquired of him what he was put in the stocks for, and on his replying, the bystander vehemently protested, “why, they *can’t* put you in the stocks for that,” and proceeded to support his assertion by reason and argument. The answer of the man in the stocks was of course simple—there he was—they *had* put him in, and it was of no use arguing about it. “*J’y suis et j’y reste.*”

So it is with us : whatever may be the right of the matter as a question of etymology or classification, there still remains the absolutely indisputable fact, that there are in this country not only our own Society, but numbers of other Societies, all of whom are united by the single bond of union which is furnished by the Microscope and the subjects of microscopical research.

I thank you for the encouragement with which you have heard me, and I now give you the toast of the evening, “Prosperity to

the Quekett Microscopical Club." (Cheers.)

The toast was drunk with "three times three."

Dr. COOKE, at the request of the Chairman, sang "Old Robin the Queketter," a parody, written by himself, on "Old Simon the Cellarer."

"THE PRESIDENT."

MR. T. CHARTERS WHITE.—Gentlemen, we are honoured to-night by the presence of one who, although only recently allowing us the pleasure of his personal acquaintance, is as well known by his labours in the world of science as is the Sun in his noon-tide brightness; labours which have been, which are and which will be warmly appreciated by the student of Nature for all time. If there is any truth in the maxim *Labor ipse voluptas*, this gentleman must have had a remarkably happy time of it, for it is only necessary to take down from our bookshelves any number of volumes on Natural Science, published during the last thirty years or more, to find articles on all sorts of subjects to which his name is appended, subjects which he has illumined by his touch, not with the fitful phosphorescence of the *ignis fatuus*, but with the steady ray of a beacon that points the path of safety, and the sure resting place for the seeker after scientific truth. We of the Quekett Microscopical Club are especially happy in having such a leader through the dark and intricate paths of Biological research, proud to have such a commander-in-chief in our warfare with scientific difficulties, round whose banner we can rally, and whom we can loyally support, but to-night we meet him in another character, as our guest, and he sees us under a different aspect. The weapons of our warfare are laid aside for a time, our arms are piled, and round the camp fires of our social intercourse. I invite you to raise your warmest *vivas* to the health, long life and prosperity of our President, Professor Thomas Huxley. (Cheers.)

PROFESSOR HUXLEY (who was received with spontaneous and long continued cheering): Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, there is an old adage that *inter arma silent leges*, and I presume it is equally open to be said that *inter pocula silent leges*. Otherwise I should be unable to account for my position amongst you at the present moment. For I hold, after long experience of the accuracy and trustworthiness of the press, that whatever one reads in print is true, and on reading your Menu to-night, I find "Frank Crisp, Esq., LL.B., F.R.M.S., President of the Society in the Chair."* (Laughter). I presume therefore that at the present moment I am called upon by some mistake, and although from what we have just heard I fully feel how difficult it must be to emulate the ready eloquence of my friend, Mr. Crisp, yet I will presume that by mere accident of fortune I am placed in his position, and will endeavour to make the speech he would have made to you as President. (Laughter.)

I listened with great interest to the remarks of Mr. Crisp, who has so much better a knowledge than I can hope to have of your Society and of your proceedings. I am free to confess that I had not the slightest conception that you were so numerous and so powerful a body; and I can only assure you that I have every desire to be if I can of some use to such a body. I have been accused, in the course of a somewhat long career, of doing many wrong things, but I think, in the whole category of my many crimes (laughter), if there is a crime which so far as I know even my most frantic adversary has never accused me of, it is that of having the slightest tendency to flatter anybody. Therefore you will believe me it was with great pleasure, not unmixed with a certain degree of surprise, when, at the first meeting of your Society, I had the pleasure of hearing papers, which for scientific grasp and knowledge were quite equal to the papers of any other scientific body in this country.

Let me say, I accepted the office you have done me the honour to confer upon me with very great hesitation. Not that I was not sensible of the honour; I was fully sensible of it, but I

* It was so stated in the Menu by a printer's error.

made known to the gentlemen who spoke to me about the matter that my engagements are very numerous and very pressing, and I find that as I get older doing more than two or three things at once becomes somewhat troublesome (Laughter). I cannot now find the energy or the stuff for carrying on so many occupations as I have done in former times, and I said to the gentlemen who did me the honour to address me, that I was much afraid that as your President I should be very much of a *faineant*, and should be able to come amongst you but seldom, though I should be anxious to do all I could to further the interests of the Society when I did come. It has been a very great pleasure to me to attend the meetings of your Society, and not only a very great pleasure, but a very great profit. In becoming older one is accustomed to get wrinkles of various kinds, and I venture to say that has been my case in regard to the two of your meetings I have had the pleasure of attending. So far as the purposes of this club are concerned, I regret that "the meetings of the Royal Society will shortly commence, and those will occupy me so much, and in so many ways, that I am very much afraid I shall not be the very best attendant at your meetings for some time to come. I hope you will regard it as my excuse that I am endeavouring to carry out in every possible way the objects of a Society that has been in existence for the last two hundred years, and becomes more and more famous as time goes on.

It would be presumptuous in me, as a new broom, to offer suggestions as to the course your club should pursue. I was however struck by an observation Mr. Crisp has made as to the undesirableness of your Society shooting too high. As to shooting the moon or shooting a star there may be a difficulty. The great aim of officers of the Army at the present time in order to hit men is to make their soldiers fire low, and I venture to say that is the best way to hit facts also. A mode of investigation which confines itself to persistent and humble modes of gaining information on all points is a much better method of reaching the higher generalizations of science than the mode pursued by those who persist in shooting the moon, and come out nowhere at all (Laughter). Therefore, I venture to think the chairman and I are entirely at one in that matter.

On the importance of confining oneself to one field of observation no one would insist more than I ; but I think I may venture to suggest that there is a field in which this club might do a great amount of service to the higher branches of science. You have, I think, an almost unlimited power of observation. You have a park of artillery in the shape of instruments such as are rarely found collected together in any part of the world. There are amongst you a number of persons who are competent to take observations with those instruments with accuracy and precision—a class of distinguished observers—if I might parody the words of Tennyson, a “ noble six hundred.” (Laughter.) I am not desirous that you “ noble six hundred ” should have all your time taken up in severe study. I have the greatest respect for anything which encourages rational amusement among mankind. I believe that nothing is more beneficial, and I am far from saying that any one who finds intelligent amusement in his Microscope should give it up for more severe pursuits. But, I venture to think, that those who wish to work might usefully turn their attention to some of the many questions arising in biological science which can be solved only by the help of the Microscope and by that patient observation which you have displayed. I do not see why you should not follow the example set by the *Académie des Sciences* in Paris two centuries ago. Members associated themselves for the purpose of anatomical and other research, and in that way science became enriched with facts. That is a matter for your consideration. I can only say, if I can be of any use in suggesting lines of inquiry I shall be only too happy to do so, and I venture to add that, however active you may be, I will undertake to keep you supplied.

And now, gentlemen, it only remains for me to beg you to make a liberal discount from the very kind terms in which Mr. Charters White proposed my health, and to thank you very heartily for the manner in which you received that toast. I have to remind you that this is the first time on which I have had the opportunity of addressing you, and I hope that if I appear before you on a future occasion your reception will not be less warm. (Cheers.)

Mr. J. A. Johnson sang “ The Dumb Wife.”

“THE ROYAL MICROSCOPICAL AND KINDRED
SOCIETIES.”

MR. THOMAS SPENCER: I was set down originally to propose the toast which was to close the proceedings of the evening—I mean that of our indefatigable caterers, the Dinner Committee—which would have been an exceedingly pleasant and easy task, and I undertook it without hesitation. Since then, however, that of “The Royal Microscopical and Kindred Societies” has been allotted to me, and which toast I now rise to propose, though with some hesitation, from feeling my inability to do it that amount of justice which its subject deserves. Still, as an old member of the elder Society, I am in duty bound to say a few words as to its great merits, though I am far from being a constant attendant at its meetings.

Before proceeding, however, it may perhaps not be out of place to venture a remark on one passage of the very eloquent speech we have just heard delivered by the able Chairman of the evening. In the course of his address, something was said as to the absence of governmental aid to the science of this country. Although that has long been a subject of complaint among some of our scientific men, yet, looking from my point of view, I beg to differ, with all respect. Whenever I hear the question broached, I can’t help being reminded of what was said on one occasion to Colbert the celebrated financial Minister of Louis the Fourteenth. At the commencement of his official career, the Minister asked deputations from Marseilles, Bordeaux, and other commercial cities of France, to meet him on a given day, to take counsel and suggest how the government could best aid the commerce of the kingdom,—but what was the reply?—“All we wish you to do for us,” said their spokesman, “is to let us alone to pursue commerce in our own way.” So, in the same spirit I say, let Englishmen cultivate science themselves in their own way, and out of their own private resources, without looking for the financial patronage of those in power. There was a period in earlier life when I would have agreed with our Chairman but now, looking back on the progress science has

made in this country, and seeing how many of its greatest men—among which rank some of the greatest the world has ever seen—have achieved this greatness unaided, seeing that all our eminent men in science, and even literature, our Newtons and Shakespeares, have made their discoveries and produced their writings without public aid, I say let well alone. There is one kind of patronage, however, that I am greatly favourable to—that of the Fellowships conferred by our well-endowed Colleges on their best scholars. These I look on as little oases, away from the bustle of the commercial world, and which often enable men of talent and genius to find quiet resting places for study. Again, in the Patent law we have another species of reward for scientific inventors, but after all a species of lottery in which, when one takes a ticket, he in ninety cases out of a hundred draws a blank.

Thus much for patronage, and now as to the toast of the Royal Microscopical Society, whose continued prosperity I am about to ask you to drink in a bumper. It is hardly so numerous a Society as ours—and is perhaps a little more technical—arising from so many of its members being devoted to science as a profession. The bulk of our members, on the other hand, look on the Microscope as affording them amusement and recreation, blended with instruction, of the very highest order—that is, beyond all other scientific instruments—not excepting the Telescope—which after all is often only an affectation of science (no, no)—hear me out—unless in the hands of the Mathematician. Aided by our instrument, on the contrary, discoveries are made and comprehended, even in non-technical hands; but with the Telescope none but a mathematician can even glean out a discovery in the barren field of that infinite space, which, looked into as it may, is comprehended by none—while discoveries in it are not inexhaustible. Nature's works, when viewed by the Microscope, on the other hand, are comprehended and admired by all. I firmly believe that its revelations inspire us with more veneration for the works of the Creator than do those of the telescope, a thousand times over. Could the cultivation of any other instrument bring together a goodly festive gathering like

this? Naturalists tell us that no birds of prey are gregarious. Now, I venture to affirm, that the Microscope, beyond all other scientific instruments, promotes gregariousness the most—meaning thereby, the science of good fellowship.

I need hardly say that we “Quekettors” are an off-shoot of the elder society, which in its time, has done, and is still doing, so much good work, and I am sure all present will drink with the greatest heartiness to the Royal Microscopical Society, with the other kindred Societies—whose name is now legion. With the toast I have to couple the names of Mr. Charles Stewart, one of the Secretaries of the Royal Microscopical Society, and Dr. A. Carpenter, the President of the Croydon Microscopical Club. (Cheers).

MR. CHARLES STEWART: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, I beg to thank you for the exceedingly kind and hearty manner in which the toast of the “Royal Microscopical Society and other kindred Societies” has been received by you. Notwithstanding that we are indebted so much to foreign countries for a considerable proportion of our practical biological knowledge, yet I certainly think there is one point in which we do not yield to them. There is no foreign country that can show so many persons that really work at the Microscope, and really love the Microscope. There is no other country where so large a number of men are drawn together by the love of this particular pursuit. (Cheers.)

DR. A. CARPENTER: Mr. President and Gentlemen, I feel somewhat in an awkward position in having in the presence of this great assembly to respond for the health of the kindred Societies, that you have been kind enough to honour this evening. I represent one of those kindred Societies as its President for this year; one, which I consider to be an offshoot of the Quekett Club, because it was one of your members who founded us. It has just been said that the love of microscopy is not very general throughout the country, yet, I think if your Chairman had been present at the last meeting held in our town, when we had what is called a *Soirée*, when there were 208 Microscopes exhibited, he would have been well pleased to observe the interest felt by that great

assembly in the sights which the Microscope reveals. I must confess that the work my Society is doing is not of the highest character that the Microscope can claim. We are much in the position of country elementary schools. You are in the position of Eton, Harrow, and Winchester. But there is this to be borne in mind, that separate observations are encouraged by each Society, and that these must tend to bring out observers, who in time will make their mark in history. At present we do not know much more than the rudiments; but at the same time we look up to such a Society as the Quekett and are glad to have its assistance and example. On behalf of the Croydon Microscopical, and similar Societies, I beg to thank you for the toast you have drunk; and in communicating to my Club the cordial manner in which you have received me as their representative, I hope they will think better of themselves than they thought before. (Cheers.)

Mr. T. SPENCER sang a Scotch song.

"THE CHAIRMAN."

MR. CHARLES STEWART proposed the health of the Chairman in complimentary terms.

Mr. CRISP: I thank you, Gentlemen, for the cordiality with which you have received the toast, notwithstanding the terms in which it was proposed by my colleague.

Being, as many of you know, somewhat of an enthusiast in regard to the Microscope, I always rejoice that I am not a rich man, that I have no poor relations hungering after my worldly goods, and eager to anticipate the ordinary course of nature. If that were the case I should no doubt some day have a hard struggle for liberty, and although I might win in the end, it is certain that the witnesses to be called on my behalf would have to be drawn from sources far outside the microscopic world. (Laughter.)

It is not, however, so out of place, as it might at first sight

seem, for a lawyer to be an ardent Microscopist. The abhorrence of Nature for a vacuum is as nothing in comparison with the abhorrence of the law for small things—(loud laughter)—so that it is one of the most familiar of legal proverbs, *De minimis non curat lex*. The “small things” therefore that the law does not care for, the lawyer may appropriately complete his education by giving some attention to.

I am, moreover, one of those people who consider that it is no disadvantage, but on the contrary a distinct benefit, to a man to have a pursuit—a “hobby”—outside his own particular business, however absorbing that business may be. I know there is an inclination to a contrary opinion on the part of friends whose opinion I value highly, and very rarely differ from—some not a hundred miles from my immediate left hand—but, to draw a simile from agriculture, the farmer if he attempts to grow corn on the same field many years in succession produces in the end only a stunted and inferior crop, whilst, if he alternates it with turnips, the standard of the corn crop is maintained. In my own case the Microscope has been my turnip crop—(laughter)—and I think that my production of corn has been improved and not deteriorated thereby.

“THE TREASURER, SECRETARIES, AND OFFICERS OF THE CLUB.”

DR. MATTHEWS : Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, when a vast and complicated machine, such as a railway locomotive, is put in motion, it is all very well while its course is smooth, and it does not run off its track. But if by some accident it is upset, we ask “who is to be hanged for it?” We rarely think of the *ordinary* services which secured its prosperity before it came to the mishap. In the same way, the small and apparently unimportant services of men who conduce to our daily comfort are scarcely acknowledged, and we only (and justly) estimate their value when they come to be interrupted.

Throughout the whole of its progress our Society has had most loyal management on the part of those who have charge of our

affairs, and their attention in the discharge of their duties could not have been surpassed. I have had the privilege of watching constantly and attentively—for some time past—not one officer only, but many, and I can testify to the efficient and almost incessant services rendered by all of them. It has not been forced on any one, but has been a labour of love, heartily performed by men who have sacrificed much of their time and their comfort in conducting the business of the Society. Many of us are always ready to grumble, but I trust we are, as English gentlemen, not less ready to acknowledge services that have been so carefully and efficiently performed, and we ought therefore the more to acknowledge them on such an occasion as this.

I, at least, do not see how it is possible for any Society to be better served than we are now, and I will therefore ask you to drink the health of the Treasurer, Mr. Gay ; the Secretaries, Mr. Ingpen and Dr. Cooke; the Librarian, Mr. Alpheus Smith; the Curators, Mr. Hailes and Mr. Emery; and last, not least, our Reporter, Mr. Lewis. It has been said that good men lived before Homer, but that their names are lost for want of a poet.* Let not the names of our officers be forgotten for want of our ready acknowledgment. I beg then to propose "The Treasurer, Secretaries, and Officers of the Club," coupled with the names of Dr. Cooke and Mr. Ingpen. (Cheers.)

DR. M. C. COOKE: A sort of left-handed principle, Mr. Chairman places the least first and the greatest last. I, who do the least possible as an officer of the Society, am called upon to respond for those who do all the hard work. Well, so be it. I am sure that, bad spokesman as they have got on their behalf, those gentlemen who have served the Society are heartily grateful to you for the manner in which you have responded to the proposal of their health.

I have marvelled in my own mind what it was I should have to say to you in response to this toast. I wished to say something a little out of the ordinary track of "Gentlemen, I thank you," and so sit down. At last I hit upon a lucky discovery. I came

* Reporter ?

upon a draper's circular, and I resolved to adopt that. This is the circular:—

“We beg to inform the inhabitants of Tottenham Court Road and its vicinity that our arrangements for the coming season are now complete. Our unprecedented stock has been enormously increased on the most advantageous terms, and is now unequalled in the world. The accession to the firm of a gentleman of the highest ability in all departments—(laughter and cheers) is an assurance to our customers that no effort will be spared to retain their patronage. Business will continue to be conducted on the commodious premises which the firm has occupied for so many years, and which have been considerably extended to meet the requirements of our widely extended trade.

“We are now able to invite inspection of our enormous stock, which includes all the choicest novelties of the season, and is being disposed of at ruinous prices to ensure a quick return. Since our establishment some years ago, it has been our constant aim to combine excellence with cheapness, by which means we have successfully beaten all our competitors. Whilst it is our privilege to thank our customers for their generous support in the past, we appeal to them with confidence for the continuance of their favours, since our only interest is in their welfare. (Much laughter).”

That is, of course, applicable to us if we alter the names. We have our “extended business.” In University College we have “our commodious premises,” and on this occasion we have the gentleman present who is unsurpassed in his profession.

It is expected at My Lord Mayor's dinner, or any affair of that kind, that those responsible for the management of affairs should reveal some of the secrets of the prison house. The only secret we had was rather let out by the Chairman. He said we were going to have a *Soirée*. He did not allow me to be the first to reveal that, but I will tell you a little of some of the objects we are likely to have exhibited. These objects are to be of an æsthetical character—whatever that may mean; but it assumes the existence of an undercurrent which visitors must

understand, because in that the clue is given to the whole affair, and it is to that I wish to call attention.

We are to have the "*Tongue of a Blow-fly*"—that is a very interesting object. We may have seen it flattened, and have been told it is not right to have it flattened. When you see it, what will it remind you of? It will remind you of those self-asserting open-mouthed people who are always to be seen whether they are wanted or not. (Laughter).

Another object, a very pretty object, is "*Young Oysters*." Some of you have seen them before. They have pretty shells with iridescent sheen, one might fancy that Venus Aphrodite still hovered over them. They are like "people I have met," who are always "shelling out"—people always welcome in all societies. (Laughter).

Another object you will see is "*Crystals of Salicine*." You must have seen them before. They are sometimes exhibited at Microscopical Soirées. (Laughter). These will be exhibited by polarized light. A little plate formed of pieces of mineral, lights them up with a glow, and imparts the most beautiful colours. They are a type of certain people, very sensitive to the insinuation of a thin mineral plate. (Laughter).

There is another object, that if possible you will see exhibited,—"A Thin Section of Coal." That has been exhibited sometimes and may be exhibited again. It is interesting, as carrying us back into the long ages of past generations, before we in this world were thought of. This suggests to us retrospective people—people who say, "Ah, when I was a boy, everything was so much better then than it ever has been since." That is the sort of people there were when coal was young. (Laughter).

There is another class of popular exhibits you will see displayed, "*Sponge Spicules*"—very interesting—a lot of filaments crossing each other in all directions and at every conceivable angle, but never running parallel to one another. These always suggest that class of cross-grained people who never run the same course with us on anyone subject; in fact, like some people we know

highest order, ready to undertake the most difficult work—what I did say was, that we wanted some one to guide our somewhat desultory action, and to suggest lines of research which might be useful to our Club and to Science. I know, as a matter of fact, points have only to be started, and they are immediately taken up. On one subject—the staining of vegetable tissue—which I had the pleasure of introducing to the Club, and which was afterwards so ably treated by Mr. Gilbert, our members soon produced as beautiful specimens as can be found anywhere.

There is another little point also as to which I have to complain. I have had my knuckles rapped to-night in regard to our papers (laughter). I do not see why our papers should not be original contributions to science. Anyone who looks through the four volumes of our Journal will find some original papers of which the Club may fairly be proud. Therefore I hope we shall not give up original research, even if our general work is not so ambitious, though perhaps, quite as useful.

Another point mentioned to-night is worthy consideration, that every man should set himself on the first of January to get as many new members as he can in the course of the year. That is all very well in one way, but is not quite so well in another way. It will all depend on who the member is. In the earlier days of the Club, when I became Secretary following Mr. Charters White, our ambition was to get a large number of members, and when we came across a friend who seemed a little interested in the Microscope, we said he must join the Quekett Club. He would join, pay his subscription, and perhaps, never come near us. I do not like that sort of member. I do not so much care about largely increasing our numbers. I should like those who join to be men who really wish to acquire the rudiments of an art which would give them great pleasure, and make them useful, and who would be willing to give some account of their labours. I thank you, gentlemen, on behalf of my colleagues and myself, for your kind approbation.

Mr. HARKER, the Toast-Master, sang "The Englishman."

“THE VISITORS.”

PROFESSOR HUXLEY then proposed the health of the Visitors in humorous terms, coupling with the toast the names of Mr. Westlake and Dr. Woodward. Referring to these gentlemen, he said—“I will venture to say that *de minimis non curat lex* is not true of the legal luminary and eounsel of Her Majesty who sits on my right hand. I have had the good fortune to know Mr. Westlake for many years, and I must say—at the risk of offending him—that he takes a great and most generous interest in the *minimi* and *minimæ* who constitute the poorer part of our population. I must therefore ask you to regard him not merely as a luminary of the law, but as I am sorry to say luminaries of the law are not always regarded, and that is as a gentleman who has great sympathy with his fellow creatures. (Laughter.) With regard to Dr. Woodward, it is unnecessary to say how well he is known as a naturalist of eminence; or that he is by no means a crustaceous person.” (Cheers.)

MR. WESTLAKE, Q.C. : Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, I—and I include with myself all those guests who belong to the species *Guestius Westlakii* as the President has described us—am extremely gratified by your reception of us to-night, and for the kind way in which you have drunk our health, and I am also obliged to your excellent President for the kind manner in which he has spoken of me. When I received an invitation to this dinner, from my friend Mr. Crisp, I was sure that with Professor Huxley and him I should spend a pleasant evening, but I had no idea that I should meet so large and important a Club as I have met to-night. I am extremely glad to have formed the acquaintance of it.

With regard to the law and the application of the maxim *de minimis non curat lex*, I think Mr. Crisp will agree with me that lawyers can hardly venture to appeal to their consciences and say that they never wrangle about objects that after all are really microscopic. (Laughter.) Members of this club are animated with a spirit not of wrangling, but of scientific research. They enter on contests in which defeat can never be bitter because

their object is the pursuit of truth, and anyone who is worsted has this advantage, that by his very defeat he learns from those of greater scientific attainments. I will not at this late hour detain you further, than to repeat our thanks for the pleasure we have had to-night.*

“THE DINNER COMMITTEE.”

MR. CRISP :—I hope that when we leave this room we shall agree that we have spent a very pleasant evening. If we do, or even if we don't, we ought not to separate without some recognition of the exertions of those to whom the success of the entertainment is due—the Dinner Committee. I believe I am considered to be *ex officio* a member of the Dinner Committee, but inasmuch as all I have done has been to bestow a dignified blessing and approval on their acts, I think I am sufficiently of an outsider to be able to propose the toast.

First, there is Mr. Charters White, who in length and breadth of service to the Club, and in the value of those services, stands second to none; and then there are Mr. Goodinge and Mr. Curties—the genial and sprightly Mr. Curties—who have been indefatigable in endeavours to make the evening a success. I ask you, therefore, not to leave them with only “*Labor ipse voluptas*” to fall back upon, but to give them your warmest and heartiest thanks for their successful efforts, and to say *esto perpetua*.

It is usual to couple a name with the toast, and although Mr. Charters White has the best right to have his name coupled with it, he has very gracefully left me to my own choice, and I have therefore selected that gentleman who is the senior in regard to my acquaintanceship, Mr. Curties, whom I knew before my birth—that is, my microscopie birth—(laughter)—and who as long as I can remember has been ready to render all kinds of practical assistance to Microscopists “regardless (as we said at another period of the evening) of all commercial considerations”—one who has done a very great deal for the Club in very many ways, but which, from

* Dr. Woodward had been obliged to leave earlier in the evening.

the fact of it not having been done in an official position, has hitherto been left unrecognised in any public manner, and I am very glad to be able to ask you to recognise it, if only indirectly, now. I propose "The Dinner Committee," with our best thanks for our enjoyable evening. (Cheers.)

Mr. T. CURTIES:—Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen, I have been requested by my friends and colleagues, Mr. Charters White and Mr. Goodinge, to acknowledge the toast you have been good enough to drink, chiefly, I suppose, because they have done the hard work, and now leave me to do the talking. I will simply say how heartily we thank you for the way the toast has been received, and—speaking for myself—for the kind manner in which you greeted the reference which the Chairman made to me. Those who initiated these annual gatherings acted on the belief that, after an existence of ten years, the social instincts of the Club required further development. We appreciated so much the pleasant summer re-unions, to which we were invited by those cheery and indefatigable excursionists, Messrs. Gay, Reeves, and Oxley, that it naturally excited emulation, and thus a London Dinner was commenced three years ago, and is now, we hope, an established custom. I am sure we must all be gratified at the able and genial manner in which the Chair has been filled this evening. (Cheers.)

The proceedings terminated shortly before eleven.*

* (The above is printed from the Shorthand Notes of Mr. J. Pullan.)

APPENDIX.

A Microscopical Lament.

By A. VICTIM, Esq.*

I.

Past twelve o'clock, and the Camphine light
Is burning rather blue ;
But my 'coarse adjustment' is not right,
Nor my stage-rotation true.

II.

My Nicol prism is half destroyed ;
All my Rotifers are dead :
There's a crack in my Paraboloid,
That's pretty sure to spread.

III.

My last 'Objective' screws awry ;
My Sub-stage is also out :
There's a little spot in my favourite eye,
I'd much rather be without.

IV.

Some time ago, I used to get,
Both sets on Rhomboides :
But now I only find one set ;
Though I've cramp in both my knees.

V.

Nubecula puzzles my weary soul :
Obscurum I've never met :
My right eye burns like a lighted coal ;
And my left is dim and wet.

* H. C. R.

IV.

My hands have a strange, metallic smell ;
And my elbows are in great pain :
But those checks on Macrum I saw so well,
I'm not able to see again.

VII.

Oh ! Cuspidata's a difficult thing,
To see as it should be seen :
Both sets of lines you can seldom bring
Into focus at once, I ween.

VIII.

The lamp burns low, and a horrid wail
Is heard on the midnight air ;
For I see the marks on Podura scale ;
But the lights, they are not there.

IX.

Twisting and screwing with lever and rack,
And diagonal rays of light ;
Oh ! Reade's condenser has broken my back ;
And Gillett's enfeebled my sight.

X.

Now my state of mind is very bad,
On angular aperture :
And Amphipleura drives me mad :
What more can man endure ?

XI.

With slots, and reflectors, and diaphragms,
And stages of selenite ;
My joints are a series of aches and jams,
And my hair is nearly white.

V.

XII.

Oh! beware, beware of the Mieroscope,
And the fell magician Ross:
From Smith and Beek's you'd better elope
At once, or you'll come to loss.

XIII.

Keep out of Baker's dangerous trap,
Near Weston's Music Hall;
Or you'll find yourself without a rap,
For he'll eat you, bones and all.

XIV.

In Powell and Lealand's mystic den,
Waste not away your life;
Avoid those dark, mysterious men:
Return to your anxious wife.

XV.

There are padded rooms at Colney Hatch,
Where you cannot hurt your back;
And they're always ready with bolt and latch,
For the Micro-maniae.

The Quekett Library

OF STANDARD WORKS OF INTEREST TO MICROSCOPISTS .

—:O:—

All of the following works are noticed in "The Microscope and its Revelations," by Dr. Carpenter. Some are out of print, but the rest can be had on application to Messrs. F. C. & Co., care of the Quekett Microscopical Club.

"The Principles of Binocular Vision,"

"The Relations of Low forms of Life to Fermentations," and

"The Tolerance of Desiccation,"

Being Nos. 92, 93 and 94 of "Temperance Tracts."

"On Flatness of the Field of View"—

By the author of "The Prairies of North America."

"The Structure of Test Scales"—

(Issued by the Board of Trade to the Inspectors under the
'Weights and Measures' Act).

"A Summary of the opinions hitherto expressed as to the true nature of the markings of the Diatomaceæ," Vol. I. Part I. pp. 1-750, Folio. (*An endeavour will be made to complete the work in 20 vols.*)

"On *Eidola*, or False Images"—

By the author of "Ten Years of Missionary Life among the Heathen."

"On Milled Heads, and the distinction between Proto-phytes and Zoo-phytes"—

From "Bell's Life."

"Multiplication by Binary Sub-division"—

Part III. of "A new System of Arithmetic."

* After Hood.

“ The ‘ Brownian ’ Movement.”

Reprinted by permission of the authorities of the “ Smithsonian Institution.”

“ On Washing Diatoms,” with some notes on Starches.

“ On Mounting Objects ”—

By Professor Glaisher and Mr. Coxwell.

“ Contributions to a History of the Stage,” with an appendix describing a new form of Stage Vice.—(*To follow “Records of the Sub-stage.”*)

“ On the Higher Powers ”—

By a D. D.

“ The *Simple* Microscope applied to the observation of the Cilia.”

“ On Encysting Processes, with some remarks on Resolution and Irresolution.”

“ A new system of Psychology.” Vol. I. *The Subjective*; Vol. II. *The Objective*. (For the convenience of Microscopists either vol. can be had separately.)

“ Some obscure forms of Cells ”—

By Professor Maskelyne.

“ On Growing Slides ”—

By ‘ One who has grown them,’ (with notes on Live Boxes.)

“ The means of reducing and correcting Aberration ”—

By the Governor of Bethlehem Hospital.

“ The Structure of Eyes ”—Part I. The Bull’s Eye.

“ The formation of Deposits ”—

By the author of “ The Theory of Banking.”

“ The Aplanatic Searcher,” (*this is out of print.*)

“ Note on the absence of the Male of *Rotifer* ”—

By the authoress of the “ Wrongs of our Sex in all classes of Society.”

- “ On Immersion Systems,” (reprinted from the “Hydropathic Magazine.”)
- “ The application of the Microscope to the discrimination of Bubbles.”
(Part I. of “ A Manual for Investors.”)
- “ How to avoid Errors of Interpretation ”—
By a Professor of Languages.
- “ On the treatment of Palates ”—
By the author of “ The Art of Dining.”
- “ The best form of Section Instrument ”—
Translated (by permission) from “ L’Histoire de la Guillotine.”
- “ On Fission ”—
(Fac-simile reprint from the 1st edition of “ The Complete Angler.”)
- “ On Halteres ”—
By C. Marwood, Esq.
- “ Contrivances for Slow and Quick Motion ”—
By the author of “ The Stage-Coach and the Railway.”
- “ The Origin of *Proto-coccus* ”—
(Being a discussion of a point hitherto neglected in the attempts made to solve that *vexata quæstio* of Biologists “ Which was first, the Egg or the *Hen*.”)
- “ On a new kind of Cephalo-siphon and on Diatom and other Valves ”—
By a Member of the Institute of Civil Engineers.
- “ The Life History of *Rotifer vulgaris* ”—
By the author of “ The Common Weal.”
- “ The use of Stops ”—
By the author of “ Aids to Punctuation.”

“ Some simple Forms of Life ”—

From the article ‘ Confidence Trick ’ in the “ Polite Dictionary.”

“ On Flagella, in reference more especially to Bacteria ”—

By the author of “ Spare the Rod and spoil the Child.”

“ Polarizing Apparatus,” with a full-page engraving of H.M.S.S.

“ Alert ” and “ Discovery.”

“ On resolving Tests ”—

By the author of “ A key to Double Aerostics.”

“ Reflections in Microscopy ”—

(A specimen Chapter from a forthcoming work “ Select Correspondence on Angular Aperture.”* *Uniform with the “ Encyclopedia Britannica.” Subscriptions can now be sent to the publishers.*

— — — —

In preparation.

“ Binocular Eye-pieces and Double Nose-pieces.”

“ A means of obtaining great Focal Depth,” with a description of the Diamond Boring process.

“ The advantages of Low Temperature for Slides,” and

“ The Illumination of Dark Wells.”

— — — —

A few packets of Siliceous Envelopes, strongly recommended for sending Diatoms through the post.

* To be sold—a bargain—a large and highly important collection of diagrams (in 47 portfolios) demonstrating that the angular aperture of an object-glass can, or cannot, exceed a certain limit.

N.B.—Some scientific periodicals have recently extolled a contrivance imported from Germany, which combines in one a Walking Stick, a Microscope, a Geological Hammer, and other appliances, speaking of it as “very original” and a “marvel of ingenuity.”

F. C. & Co. beg to state that the merit of originality or ingenuity in such matters does not rest with Germany, as they long ago recognised the desirability of so contriving instruments (more particularly scientific instruments) that their use should not be limited to one purpose only, as is unfortunately too often the case. Some years since they contrived and issued the following form of Microscope, of which a limited number now remain in stock, and for which early application is necessary.

The tube of the instrument can be taken away, and by attaching to it sufficiently powerful object glasses, a telescope is made, which will show very distinctly the satellites of Mars.

The milled heads can all be removed so as to be used as handles to drawers or even doors if desired.

The draw-tube, being provided with an extra strong rack and pinion movement, can by an ingenious contrivance be readily converted into a patent cork-screw.

The mirror can also be detached so as to form a very convenient glass for the pocket, or by mounting it on an appropriate stand can be used as a shaving mirror.

The horse-shoe foot can also be detached for use as a letter-weight.

By removing the tube, mirror and substage, and fitting a broom handle in the place of the former, a very useful and formidable weapon is ready to the hand of the Microscopist in case of any burglarious attempt on his premises. The circular part of the horse-shoe can be made to inflict a dull heavy blow, or if that from any cause should prove ineffectual, the other and more angular parts of the instrument can be applied with great effect.

The whole instrument can of course be readily put together again, after the separate parts have been used for any of the above purposes, and it is needless to say without impairing the general utility of the instrument.

The same ingenuity has been employed in regard to the accessory apparatus, for which see instructions accompanying the instrument; thus the Wenham paraboloid can be made to form an exceedingly convenient egg cup, &c., &c.

Caution.—To avoid piracy all articles are marked with the firm's registered Trade Mark as annexed.



De Mikroskopiker's Arms.

CREST:—A *Microscope* rampant.

SUPPORTERS:—*Daphnia pulex* and *Sida crystallina*.

MOTTO:—*De minimis non curat lex.*

S O N G S

WRITTEN FOR THE

Excursionists' Annual Dinners,

Q. M. C.

BY

Dr. M. C. COOKE.

SONGS

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KEATING AND COMPANY STEAM PRINTERS AND LITHOGRAPHERS
8, OLD JEWRY, E.C.

1878.

Old Robin the Queketter.*

Tune,—"Simon the Cellarer."

Old Robin the Queketter keeps a rare store
 Of Diatoms, balsam'd and dry ;
Angulatum, and who shall say how many more,
 His skill on their markings to try.
 Of prisms, and condensers, and knickknacks galore,
 Old Robin has always a bountiful store.
 Resolving test objects is all his delight,
 He will sit and pore over them, deep in the night ;
 While ho, ho, ho ! his nose doth show,
 What rubbing so much against brass will do.

Old Robin has friends in his own little room,
 Where the housemaid must never be seen ;
 From thence oft at midnight is wafted a fume,
 He says—"it is paraffine."
 But there's a sly cupboard, and Molly declares,
 Sho often sees Robin "manipulate" there ;
 And Robin, he says, that he'll make any bet,
 Dry objectives are useless, so he sticks to the *wet*.
 While ho, ho, ho ! he well doth know
 Of a capital dodge the beads to show.

Old Robin he sits in his high-backed chair,
 Before him a 'Ross, number one ;'
 And all his companions in Science are there,
 Resolved that the deed shall be done.
 And Molly, the maiden, declares it is true,
 "The keyhole's a very good lens to peep through."
 And somehow she saw, by a peep on the sly,
 There was smoke in his mouth, there was fire in his eye.
 While ho, ho, ho ! he did chuckle and crow,
 "The beads are all double, and dance in a row."

* By Dr. M. C. Cooke.—First sung at the Annual Excursion Dinner at Leatherhead, 1871.

The Days of the Olden Time.*

Tune—"Old English Gentleman."

If sing I must, I'll sing a song about the olden time,
And trust you'll all appreciate the beauty of my rhyme;
I cannot write heroics, or I'd tell in language grand,
Of civil wars, and other joys, that blest our happy land.
Oh those indeed were jolly days, the days of the olden time.

I'll sing of days when you at night might go and have a spree,
Knock three or four old women down, floor watchmen two or three;
But now we've got policemen, and they, the selfish elves,
Won't let you knock nobody down, they do it all themselves.
Oh those indeed, &c.

I'll sing of days when cholera and fever used to come,
As 'providential visitors' to wicked people's homes;
But now we're choked with sewerage and sanitary law,
And suck in germs and molecules with every breath we draw.
Oh those indeed, &c.

I'll sing of days when you might drink of water from the 'main,'
And never dream of suffering from water on the brain;
But now we're mad on Rotifers, and vermin such as these,
A draught of water's but a 'drain' of lively water-fleas.
Oh those indeed, &c.

I'll sing of days when pretty girls were angels in our eyes,
And niggers scarcely dared to think they were brothers in disguise;
But now we're Darwinized to dream, that every smiling lass
Is first cousin to a monkey, or half sister to an ass.
Oh those indeed, &c.

* See note to preceding page.

I'll sing of times when bugs and fleas were scarcely known at all,
Or, when they dared to visit us, were squashed against the wall ;
But now we fraternise with both, set up doctors for the flea,
And its pulse we've just discovered, not a *Furlonge* from the knee.
Oh those indeed, &c.

I never dreamt, when I was young, of facets in the eye,
Or the treason of compressing the proboscis of a fly ;
Nor bothered then with diatom, or sponge, or polyzoon,
With willow leaves upon the sun, or pitfalls in the moon.
Oh those indeed, &c.

I'll sing of days when chalk was *chalk*, and had no other name,
And blood a sanguinary fluid circling through our human frame ;
But now folks talk of corpuscles, and leucocytes, and then
We're bored to death with *protoplasm* by very learned men.
Oh those indeed, &c.

I'll sing of days when little boys from parsley beds were raised,
And little chickens hatched from eggs, and no one felt amazed ;
But now a thousand million germs must mingle in a run,
From teeth, tongue, toenail, everywhere, before the deed is done.
Oh those indeed, &c.

I'll sing of times when home at night we took our weary way,
With nothing to disturb the dreams and pleasures of the day ;
Now Microscopes are all the rage, the Quekett Club 'the go,'
That 'refuge for the destitute' of anything to do.
Oh those indeed, &c.

In good old times, on Saturday, our work was nobly done,
We stuck to business like a brick, alas ! those days are gone
And now a mad excursionist will scamper like a fool,
Twelve miles to dip a bottle in a little muddy pool.
Oh those indeed, &c.

Oh tell me not of progress, or advancement of mankind,
Of education (botheration !) or improvement of the mind ;
Fill up the glass—mankind's an ass—my body's very frail,
But if we must to Elstree go—

(or any other place too respectable to mention,)

—we need not go by *rail*,

Or e'er forget the jolly days, the days of the olden time.

A History of a Dinner,*

DEDICATED TO THE MEMBERS OF THE Q.M.C.

Tune,—“Guy Fawkes.”

1. Four and twenty “Quekettters”
 Went out to catch a beetle,
 They tried their best, without success,
 The Cara-bides to wheedle.
 Says GAY to REEVES, I think the game
 Might be a little quicker ;
 I feel an aching void within,
 Suppose we ‘do a liquor.’
 Bow, wow, wow.

(Now this is what t’other one said.)

2. Says REEVES to GAY—your notion’s good,
 But throughout all this desert,
 To find a ‘glass of bitter’ now,
 Is more than I would hazard.
 Look ! there’s an Elm, let’s tap the bark
 For larvæ of Anthrenus,
 Says GAY—I think I’d rather tap
 Some ‘half-and-half’ between us.
 Bow, wow, wow.

(Now this is what they did—under the circumstances.)

3. They wandered up, they wandered down,
 They went—I know not whither,
 ‘Till weary, wan, and sad, they sank
 Upon a stump together.
 On bottles filled with ‘gatherings’
 They gazed but one short minute,
 Then drank the juicy liquor down,
 With all the ‘varmint’s’ in it.
 Bow, wow, wow.

* By Dr. M. C. Cooke—First sung at the Annual Excursion Dinner at Leatherhead, 1869.

(Now hearken to the consequences.)

4. One smacked his lips : let's dine, he said,
 Together every year—man,
 And DURHAM—whilst he's President,
 We'll have to be the Chairman.
 JOHNSON will sing us lots of songs,
 The thing will take surprising,
 We'll worm the chairman's story out,
 About 'flea-bottom-izing.'

Bow, wow, wow

(More lucubrations.)

5. And as for COOKE, we'll give him nought
 But toadstools for his portion,
 Unless he hash up something hot
 And strong for our diversion.
 SUFFOLK will draw the others out,
 With a neutral-tint reflector,
 And LOWNE, of their secretions,
 Will be a good extractor.

Bow, wow, wow

(Now this is what the rest were doing.)

6. Now while these sages on a stump,
 In conclave close were sitting,
 The rest of the excursionists
 Around a bog were flitting.
 ARNOLD was catching Rotifers,
 By a new filtrating process,
 And BRAITHWAITE round a puddle,
 Found a century of mosses.

Bow, wow, wow.

(Here followeth a hint for the wise.)

7. Oh ! tell it not in Gower Street,
 Nor hint it at 'the College,'
 They found at length a wayside 'pub.'
 To some, a tree of knowledge.

Where RUFFLE, HAINWORTH, JAKES & WHITE
 Sucked wisdom from the 'pewter,'
 And gallons followed gallons, as
 The suited follows suitor.

Bow, wow, wow.

(Now they congregate together, as Rooks at nightfall.)

8. The hours fled on, and one by one,
 The 'Swan' beneath her pinions,
 Collected all *sound* Quekettors
 Within the Queen's dominions,
 The Secretary—last of all—
 With sixpence bribed the porter,
 To catch the train, but all in vain,
 And so he came—BY-WATER.

Bow, wow, wow.

(Here followeth certain reflections.)

9. The dinner came, and dinner went,
 With sherry all were sated,
 Each subject was injected well,
 And well illuminated ;
 Bull's Eye, Reflector, Lieberkuhn,
 Arc useful in their station,
 But nothing like a flask of wine,
 For good illumination.

Bow, wow, wow.

(The history draweth to a conclusion.)

10. And when the Editor should go,
 And all the rest were ready,
 Mixed with the wine he drank his notes,
 And both were rather heady.
 BOCKETT displayed his matchless lamp,
 To light them to the station,
 And LAMPREY floundered all the way,
 To find 'the derivation.'

Bow, wow, wow.

(*Moral.*)

11. Don't fail to fill your bottles, when
 You go for an excursion,
 And as for little wayside 'pubs,'
 Don't hold them in aversion ;
 Don't think that e'en a painted 'Swan'
 Has no gold egg within her,
 Don't breathe a word of *Leather-head*,
 To those who shirked the Dinner.

Bow, wow, wow.

A Legend of a Quakett Soirée.*

*Chanted for the Delectation of the Recalcitrant Excursionists
at Leatherhead, after Dinner, July, 1877. Re-tailed December,
1877, and not cur-tailed, but de-tailed, December, 1878.*

BY YE COOKE.

P R E L U D E.

“DOWN in a green and shady bed,”
Not very far from Leatherhead,,
 A modest violet grew ;
“Its stalk was bent, it hung its head,”
And thither sixty Cockneys fled,
 To take a private view.

This lowly flower in secret bower,
 Invisible did dwell ;
They found it out, 'tis past a doubt,
 Discovered by the smell.

They sniffed the odour with delight,
They saw the sun set out of sight,
 They saw the moonlight pale ;
They heard the “Swan” of Leatherhead
 Flutter her pinions overhead,
 And—thereby hangs a tale.

* * * * *

* It should be explained that the ‘Legend’ refers to an incident at the Soirée of 1877, when the Chinese Ambassadors (“Fee-fo-fum” and “Fi-fo-fee”) were the guests of the then President of the Club, Mr. Henry Lee.

High on a chair of polished oak, which far
 Outshone the works of "Collinson and Lock,"
 Or e'en the richest stores of Wardour Street—
 Where mediæval furniture is sold—
 The Chief exalted sat—

And thus he spoke—

Friends, brethren and Quekettors,
 We meet to honor Cæsar, not to praise him,
 They buried him long since, let's raise him;
 Or as Hibernian patriots "spake,"
 Give him a wake.

Set me the cups of wine upon this table,
 As many as are able.

* * * * *

Once more into the breach, dear friends, once more,
 And pile the dead men high upon the floor,
 Give me the cups—I mean the glasses—

By which we scale Parnassus ;
 And let the waiter like a trumpet speak
 (A real trumpet, not a penny squeak),
 This trumpet to the boys that stand without,
 The boys to heaven, the heavens to earth must shout,
 Now for a comie song !

* * * * *

The Legend.

" I WANT a hero ! " now another year
 Has rolled us here,
 And hungry Quekettors, with mouths agape
 And arms akimbo, sit and wait,
 Determined, willy nilly, none shall 'scape
 Their stern decrees of fate.
 And as the harpics clamour for a song,
 The surging murmur swells
 And rolls along,
 Until the murmur waxes to a roar—
 " Do it again, as you've done it before,
 " Johnny get up and bar the door."
 Such classic allusions
 Creating confusion,
 Till groans and threats, with threats and groans,
 Are mixed together with menacing moans,
 And with hints about lynching,
 Or spiritual pinching,
 And somebody spoke about locking the door,
 And chalking upon it
 A *Poe*-litical sonnet,
 Ending with words, we've heard somewhere before
 About "nevermore."

" I want a hero ! " That's one relic more,
 Byronic, to augment the store
 Entombed beneath the dome
 Of that gigantic mustard-pot called Albert Hall,
 Sacred to *Cole*-d collations
 And conglomerations
 Of sounds called "music of the future," all
 That warbling *Wag*(go)*ner* concocts,
 Unknown to Harry Fox,
 Or any other—music hall.

"I want a hero!" Godiva's too bare,
 Mrs. Prodgers a trifle too common,
 Of her sex we had better beware,
 It's wrong to poke fun at a woman.
 As for Caxton, he's a little too old,
 And Bradlaugh a little too gay,
 As for Biggar and Parnell—I am told
 They object to be stopping the way.
 The coming K——
 Has had his day,
 And so has General Grant;
 So, without more ado,
 I must leave it to you
 To find one—I can't.

In a snug little mansion, in a snug little square,
 Somewhere in Belgravia, it matters not where,
 The Chinese Ambassador lolls in his chair,
 Or squats on the ground, or lies on his bed,
 Or does anything else that comes into his head;
 If we can't find a hero, we'll take him instead.

Over the sea, over the sea,
 Came Fee-fo-fum and Fi-fo-fee,
 Mandarins both of high degree,
 From the land of Tea,
 To the Western land of Barbarity.
 They had been
 To Windsor, and lunched with the Queen;
 To Marlboro' House, and fared better—of course;
 And then to the Duke who has guard of the Horse;
 To Rotten Row
 And Madame Tussaud.
 Twice ten little niggers all in a row
 At Saint James's Hall;
 Gave Chislehurst a call,

And then to the City to see the Lord Mayor,
 Got a biscuit and trimmings, and whilst they were there
 The great Gog and Magog, and little Sir John,
 Had their time-keeping powers commented upon:
 They went to the Opera, went to the Folly,
 Went to the Commons and heard Bobby Lowe,
 Dropt in on Charley Matthews, stopt with Toole a little while,
 And then they supped at Evans's, and finished at Argyll.

And now having tried dissipation all round,
 Got nearly "used up," and no plethora found,
 For once thought they'd enter the walls of a college,
 And get a sly bite at the apple of knowledge,
 Astonish the Quekettors over their bugs,
 And take to the Soirée their own *china mugs*.

* * * * *

The guests were assembled, the tables were set,
 There were sounds of rejoicing as old cronies met;
 Gnats buzzing in muslin by hundreds were seen,
 Flitting about in the perfume of strong paraffine.

Brass tubes stood in rows

For rubbing the nose ;

"God bless the Quekettors !" modernized style

To replace the old saw—

Now uttered no more—

Of "God bless the Duke of Argyll."

There's a buzz, there's a hum, there's a caw at the door,
 And a strange pit-a-pat is soon heard on the floor,
 Like Laneashire Oldham boys dancing in clogs,
 Or Milesian Home-rulers jigging in brogues,
 Or a nigger "break down," such an unearthly clatter,
 Made forty to scream with one voice—"What's the matter?"
 When *in* the twin cousins of moonshine patter.

Their garb was a sack of mandarin blue,
 With a hole at the top for the head to come through,
 And nether continuations ;
 And their feet were encased in mongrel *sabots*,
 Made to do duty for evening shoes
 By somewhat of insinuation ;
 Their complexion it was of a golden huc,
 Such as is sometimes brought to view
 In the cheek of a golden pippin.

The top of the head was shaven and shorn,
 As naked as ever a babe was born,
 Except a long pigtail—all forlorn—
 Which down to the ground was dripping ;
 Their gait was a sort of a sidelong scuffle,
 Hardly a hobble, and scarcely a shuffle,
 Like “piggies” in pattens skipping.

It would fail us to tell of the marvels exhibited,
 Where nought microscopic is ever prohibited.
 There were diatoms so crystalline,
 Made up in pretty stars,
 And baby oysters stolen
 From disconsolate mammas.
 There were shells fished up ten thousand feet
 Below the wide, wide sea ;
 Or fossilized in stone or flint
 From remote antiquity.
 There were fleas such as the turkeys teaze,
 And crawling things were there,
 With nasty names—the nasty things—
 That live on the Russian bear.
 There were gizzards, spleen, and livers.

There were palates, lips, and tongues ;
 There were sections, too, injected,
 Of poor dead mortal's lungs,
 And besides, of special objects,
 Was a never equalled show,
 Some were in the hall above
 And some in the room below.

* * * * *

First of all—*Charters White*,
 With a smile full of charms,
 Showed a slice from the skin
 Of the “ Quekett Arms.”
 Next the Treasurer *Gay-ly*
 Adjusted his stand,
 And tried to exhibit
 A “balance in hand.”
 But as for machinery,
 Fox reigned supreme,
 In making his rotifers
 Rotate by steam.
Reeves, declaring the whole thing
 Was gone to the dogs,
 In a flint showed the fossilized
 Croak of a frog.
 Next *Ingpen*—the scribe—
 Rubbed his hands with delight,
 And was said to exhibit
 A pencil of light.
 Whilst kind *Dr. Matthews*
 As usual was seen
 Showing polarized crystals
 Of urbanitine.*
 In Foraminifera
 The adage prevails,

* An Alkaloid—the ‘active principle’ of the Q.M.C.

(Fide Curator),
 It ne'er rains but it *Hailes* ;
 And musical *Rogers*,
 True to his word,
 Unravelled the twists
 Of a common chord.
 " Why has not man a microscopic eye ?
 " For the plain reason, man is not a fly ! "
 But *Crisp* has hurled at Pope the " falsehood tacit,"
 And bought a Microscope for every facet.
 Then Laureate *Johnson* had nothing to show,
 Save an ancient Dutch object " used up " long ago ;
 So he sat in a corner, secure from harm,
 Humming for practice the old hundredth psalm.
 The *Cook*, spoon in hand, from the kitchen came posting,
 To search for a goose that had 'scaped from his roasting ;
 And *Lewis* reports that he heard—sure's a gun—
 " Catch 'em alive ! " crowed by more *Cocks* than one,
 Meanwhile *McIntire* stood by a gas lamp hard by
 As *Waller* podura scales sponged from his eye.
 With *Curties* for novelties none could compare,
 And his diatoms skimmed from a pot of small beer.
 When another—*Oh, breathe not his name*—
 Declared that he would not be done,
 Blowed his nose—and his eyes—
 And showed—
 How he relished the fun.

All these, and more than these,
 To please
 The most fastidious of notabilities.
 And there—in all his glory and his majesty—
 Under an inch objective, eyepiece B,
 A solitary Flea.

O Flea ! that in our hours of ease,
 Uncertain, coy, and hard to please ;
 But when sleep falls upon the brow,
 A very devil thou !

Fee-fo-fum, and Fi-fo-fee,
 In their peregrination
 Arrived at this station,
 Without seeing aught to excite consternation.

Fee-fo looked in, Fee-fo looked out,
 Examined the Microscope round about ;
 He touched the "body" with gentle hand,
 Then the tip of his digit he put on the "stand."
 Looked in again—again looked out,
 Again his little eyes wandered about ;
 And so did his hands, but strange to say,
 They wandered in quite an opposite way :
 For dexter and sinister up they go,

 And together—the twain—
 With might and main,
 Sought his head over, but all in vain,
 To find a hair,
 To have a good scratch at,
 But none was there ;
 So then—in despair—
 They scratched at the place
 Where it ought to grow.

To all the spectators now gathered around
 The aspect of Fee-fo was truly profound ;
 None dared to think, much less to say,
 That somehow or other he'd missed his way ;
 Or got in a fog,
 Or stuck in a bog,
 Or hadn't a stick to throw at a dog ;
 Till President Lee

Suggested as blandly as bland could be,
 " That's a Flea !"
 And with dexterous motion of dexter hand
 He caused the Celestial to comprehend
 Its hopping propensity.
 With a double nod, and a triple grin,
 As much as to say, " I know it,"
 Fee-fo once more the tube peeped in,
 And then he peeped below it.
 At length—the silence breaking—
 The Ambassador was speaking
 In accents small and thin :
 " Dis ting so small, dat Flea so big,
 So great as ' week-week ' China pig,
 Vish vay you squeeze him in ?"

The Band was esconced in the Flaxman Hall,
 And wallflowers stood, with their roots to the wall,
 In silent contemplation ;
 Whilst wandering daffodils moved in and out,
 And rosetted " ticket men " bustled about
 Like rats at a conflagration.
 Here a " spooning " one stood by the side of one more
 Who was tapping her toes on the dusty floor,
 And thinking of—nothing at all.
 Young doves on the cushions sat cooing together,
 Or old crones discussing the state of the weather,
 If ' coals were expected to fall.'
 Or patiently waiting
 And sagely debating
 Should their next cup be coffee or tea,
 Plantation Ceylon, or Bohea ;
 Or what hidden charm,
 Which they could not define,
 Was enshrined in those words—

“ Downstairs, room number nine.”

Whilst Mister John Brown, and Mistress J. B.,
Mixed in the crowd unconsciously

At the time when the guests were departing ;
And thus to each other in confidence true,
As middle aged folk are accustomed to do,

With freedom their views were imparting :

“ Who’s the tall man in black

With the ‘glasses’ on,

Coming down in the crush ?”

Said the feminine one.

“ That’s President Lee ! ”

Said Mister J. B.

“ And as jolly a fellow as I’d wish to see.”

His spouse was still bent

On some secret intent,

Or conning some well-turned compliment :

“ He’s a gentleman all,

So smart and tall,

But, the party in blue,

That he’s talking to—

She’s a regular fright;

Still, like a good husband, he’s very polite;

See the horrid strange way

She arranges her hair; ”

And she sighed as if gasping for life—

“ He’s a nice looking man I declare,

But I can’t say so much of his wife.”

J. B. collapsed—could it be true ?

Could he believe his eyes ?

Werc the Ambassadors all in blue

Only women in disguise ?

MORAL.

Don't squeeze in a pig, where
 There's but room for a Flea ;
 And don't, at a Soirée,
 Keep bad company.
 If you walk with strange women,
 As sure as your life,
 Some birdie will whistle
 The song to your wife.

EXTRA MORAL.

As they squat on the ground,
 Like a cat or a hound,
 We'll offer no 'cheer' to the "Heathen Chinees,"
 But give three times three to Henry Lee !

MINUTES of the Ordinary Meeting, of 24th June, 1870.
(under the Revised Bye-Laws)

THE HON. MRS. GRIMSHAW, VICE-PRESIDENT, IN THE CHAIR.

The Minutes of the preceding meeting were read and approved.

Misses Leonora, Alexina, Clarissa, Josephine Maria, and Annabella Sarah Hardup, were proposed for membership by Mrs. Hardup and Mrs. Mainchance.

The Secretary announced the following donations to the Club: "Etiquette for Scientific Gentlemen," from the Authoress. A slide of soft soap, from Mr. Sleek.

The thanks of the members were ordered to be presented to the respective donors.

The meeting was then made special, for the consideration of several proposed alterations in the Bye-laws, to be brought before the Annual Meeting next month.

It was proposed by Mr. Larkey, and seconded by Mr. Spriggins, "That the *carte de visite* of ladies proposed for membership shall in future be suspended with their certificates."

After a short discussion, this proposition was agreed to by a large majority.

It was next proposed by Mr. Seroggs, and seconded by Mr. Badger, "That no perambulators be allowed in future to accompany the field excursions of the Club." Mr. Seroggs stated that he had been induced to bring forward this motion in consequence of the sad accident which occurred to his friend Mr. Piggins on the occasion of their last excursion. It would be remembered that whilst the unfortunate gentleman was stretching forward to obtain some skimmings from a dyke, one of the perambulators which accompanied the party was driven between his legs, the result being that he was precipitated head foremost into the mud, and but for the timely assistance of two other members, fatal effects must have taken place.

A very animated discussion followed, during which it is to be regretted that personalities were indulged in.

* A proposal was brought forward at this time for the admission of Ladies as Members of the Club.

Mrs. Grundy denounced the proposition as being only another attempt on the part of those horrid bachelors to curtail the rights of women. She thought it added greatly to the interest of the excursions to see how much the little dears enjoyed themselves, and, of course, if perambulators were not taken, neither could they take the children ; and it was even likely that some of the mammas might be obliged to remain at home also. Of course she regretted the accident to poor Mr. Piggins, but ought he not to have allowed the lady to pass ? She believed that this lady had explained the matter, and attributed it to the abstraction of her attention in consequence of her husband having joined another group. She thought this was all that could be required.

The Chairwoman then put the resolution to the meeting, when it was negatived by a majority of 13.

It was also proposed by Mr. Testy, and seconded by Mr. Tittups, "That in consequence of the inconveniently crowded state of the room, ladies should be requested to abandon the use of long skirts on the evenings of meeting."

This resolution was received with evident marks of disapprobation, and the following amendment was immediately moved by Miss Prim, and seconded by several ladies who rose together, "That on account of the damage to ladies' dresses, &c., at the meetings, the central portion of the room should be reserved for ladies and their friends only, other gentlemen being requested to occupy the side recesses." Several ladies spoke in support of this amendment, and it was stated by one of them, that after the last meeting no less than five children, and parts of the tails of three dresses, were found upon the floor.

Upon the amendment being put, the Chairwoman declared it to be carried by a majority of 13.

A paper which was to have been read by Dr. Curmudgeon was ordered to be "taken as read," the Chairwoman intimating that she was sorry to have to adopt this course, but she had only that evening found out the meaning of the Latin words, and she felt sure that all who understood them would agree with her, that though the subject might be interesting to some persons, it was not quite "nice" for ladies.

There being no other paper on the agenda, the proceedings terminated with the usual *conversazione*, at which Miss Bounceer showed a micro-photograph of herself.

The following Drawings were made by MR. R. T. LEWIS, and refer to the same subject :—



Q.M.C. Excursion No. 1.

Mr. Spooney knew such a capital place for diatoms, and this is how he obtained them. Miss Moonus went too, because she thinks they are so interesting.



Q.M.C. Excursion No. 2.

Red Petticoats should not be worn at Field Excursions.

